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THE

LITERARY CORRESPONDENCE

OF

JOHN PINKERTON, ESQ.

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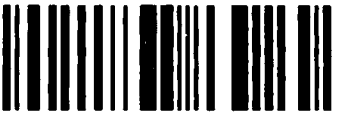
00097763

CONTENTS OF LETTERS.

VOL. II.

Page

MR. STUART TO MR. PINKERTON. 1

In praise of his History of Scotland.—Feb. 21, 1797.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 2

Praises of *Heron's Letters:* engaged in finishing his Memoir: lamenting the death of Lord Orford: wishes Mr. Roscoe would publish upon the House of Este.—March 13, 1797.

SIR WILLIAM OUSELEY TO MR. PINKERTON. 6

On Captain Wilford's Oriental Researches.—March 26, 1797.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 7

Thanks for Manso's Life of Tasso; for the praise of Fulvio Testi; and commendation of Lord Charlemont.—June 27, 1797.

MR. ROBERT VANS AGNEW TO MR. PINKERTON. 10

Offering the loan of numerous letters from Queen Mary and her two husbands, and from other Scotch princes, &c. in his possession.—Oct. 30, 1797.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 11

Is engaged in finishing his Memoir: his opinion of Mr. Roscoe. —Nov. 6, 1797.

THE EARL OF FIFE TO MR. PINKERTON. 13

Offering him access to his collection of portraits.—Dec. 1, 1797.

MR. PINKERTON TO THE EARL OF BUCHAN. 15

Respecting Scotch portraits, with a list of those most wanted for his work.—Dec. 1, 1797.

Page

SIR WILLIAM OUSELEY TO MR. PINKERTON. 17

Thanks him for having introduced Mr. Douce, and tells him of his Essay on the Lyric Poetry of the Persians.—Dec. 23, 1797.

DR. BEDDOES TO MR. PINKERTON. 19

Inquiry as to the relative frequency of consumption at different periods.—Dec. 23, 1797.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 20

Mr. Tassie engaged on portraits of Scotch kings.—Jan. 22, 1798.

MR. WILSON TO SIR JOHN SINCLAIR. 21

Description of two remarkable pictures by Jameson at Cullen House.—Feb. 17, 1798.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 23

Historical information: liberality of Messrs. Robertson at the Register Office: pamphlet published against Pinkerton by Mr. Anderson.—March 2, 1798.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 25

A short letter of civility.—March 14, 1798.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 26

Remarks on Gibbon, and on Mr. Ayre's Translation of the Merope of Maffei.—March 24, 1798.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 29

Expressive of the pleasure derived from reading the History of Scotland.—May 12, 1798.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 30

On Mr. Pinkerton's *Rimes*, and his Tragedy, and on the Irish rebellion.—May 31, 1798,

MR. GILBERT LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 32

Respecting the portraits at Newbottle, and at Somerville House. —June 18, 1798.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 36

On the state of politics, and the Irish rebellion.—Oct. 31, 1798.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 38

In praise of Mr. Pinkerton's *Rimes*.—Dec. 2, 1798.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 39

On his terms with his publisher for his Travels.—Jan. 5, 1799.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 40

Lord Charlemont's opinion of Gaudentio di Lucca, and remarks on Italian literature.—Jan. 19, 1799.

Page

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 43

Farther details of his negociations with his publishers, and thanks for information respecting Siwa.—Feb. 18, 1799.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 45

His final settlement with Cadell and Davies.—Feb. 12, 1799.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 45

On various subjects of literature, and his having begun his *Essay on the Revival of the Dramatic Art in Italy*.—Feb. 26, 1799.

MR. PYE TO MR. PINKERTON. 47

Requesting information towards his poem of Alfred.—March 7, 1799.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 49

Is gratified at the reception his Memoir has met with, and inquires about Italian books.—April 14, 1799.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 51

The Pights' houses in Orkney described, and remarks upon Ossian.—April 29, 1799.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 55

Urging him to join in the publication of the *Iconographia Scotica*. —May 5, 1799.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 56

His agreement with Harding for his Memoir.—May 6, 1799.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 59

On subjects of general literature.—June 1, 1799.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 62

Matters connected with the publication of his Travels.—June 23, 1799.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 65

Literary chit-chat.—June 24, 1799.

SIR JOSEPH BANKS TO MR. PINKERTON. 69

His opinion of Mr. Browne.—June 26, 1799.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 69

Farther matters connected with the publication of his Travels. —June 28, 1799.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 71

Information connected with Egypt and Abyssinia.—July 19, 1799.

EARL OF BUCHAN TO MR. PINKERTON. 73

Respecting portraits of Sir W. Bruce, Heriot, President Gilmour, Napier, &c.—July 19, 1799.

Page

MR. W^{m} G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 76

His Travels published: his visit to the North of England: memoranda respecting Africa.—July 30, 1799.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 79

Enclosing a catalogue of the portraits at Newbottle.—Aug. 5, 1799.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 82

In relation to the *Iconographia Scotica*.—Aug. 12, 1799.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 85

Relative to his tour in Cumberland.—Aug. 22, 1799.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 86

Abstract of the contents of his Treatise on the Gowrie Conspiracy.—Aug. 22, 1799.

MR. JOHN ROSS TO MR. PINKERTON. 89

Description of portraits of Dame Ann Livingstone and of Jameson.—Aug. 26, 1799.

THE COUNTESS OF ANCRAM TO MR. PINKERTON. 90

Details of some portraits at Newbottle Abbey, with permission to copy them.—Aug. 30, 1799.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 91

In praise of his Dissertation upon Ossian, with anecdotes of Macpherson.—Sept. 6, 1799.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 93

On Campbell's *History of Scotch Poetry*, and Whitaker's *Vindication of Mary Queen of Scots*, and his own intention of writing on the same subject, and on the date of the invention of rhyme.—Sept. 11, 1799.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 97

Urging him to join in the publication of *Iconographia Scotica*.—Sept. 26, 1799.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 99

Acceding to Mr. Pinkerton's proposal, and thanking him for his Dissertation on the Gowrie Conspiracy.—Oct. 6, 1799.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 103

Details of portraits at Newbottle.—Oct. 8, 1799.

MR. GODWIN TO MR. PINKERTON. 105

In explanation of some supposed offence.—Oct. 10, 1799.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 109

Directions about portraits to be drawn for his work.—Oct. 13, 1799.

Page

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 109

Farther information about portraits at Newbottle, and queries respecting Mary Queen of Scots.—Oct. 26, 1799.

THE MARQUIS OF BUTE TO MR. PINKERTON. 113

As to portraits at his seat at Luton Park.—Nov. 1, 1799.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 114

Answer to his inquiries about Mary Queen of Scots.—Nov. 7, 1799.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 115

Continuation of the same subject as the preceding.—Nov. 28, 1799.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 118

He has made much progress in his *Essay on the Revival of the Drama in Italy*, and urges Pinkerton to write on Spanish literature.—Dec. 1, 1799.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 119

Inquiries to be made at the State Paper Office respecting Mary Queen of Scots.—Dec. 6, 1799.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 122

Complaining of misrepresentations by Mr. Campbell.—Jan. 7, 1800.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 123

Enclosing a list of drawings by Caldwall for the *Iconographia Scotica*.—Jan. 20, 1800.

THE MARQUIS OF BUTE TO MR. PINKERTON. 124

On Spanish geographical books.—Jan. 27, 1800.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 127

In explanation of some misunderstanding.—Jan. 27, 1800.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 127

Respecting Scotch portraits.—Feb. 2, 1800.

LORD NAPIER TO MR. PINKERTON. 129

Account of two charters in his possession, and correction of an error in the History of Scotland.—Feb. 12, 1800.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 131

Asking for a transcript of part of a letter from Henry IV.—Feb. 14, 1800.

LORD NAPIER TO MR. PINKERTON. 132

With an account of sundry portraits and prints of John Napier, who invented Logarithms.—Feb. 24, 1800.

Page

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 133

On a mistake of a name in Lightfoot's *Flora Scotica*.—Feb. 24, 1800.

MR. VINCE TO MR. PINKERTON. 135

Heads of the Introduction to Pinkerton's Geography.—March 6, 1800.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 136

On drawings of the Douglas family, and some letters of Henry IV.—March 11, 1800.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 137

An account of the life and writings of the late Charles O'Conor: the progress made in his *Essay on the Revival of the Drama in Italy*.—March 25, 1800.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 141

Respecting Scotch portraits, and Macfarlane's preface to Buchanan's Dialogue.—April 6, 1800.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 143

Enclosing lists of the portraits at Yester House and at Panmure.—April 6, 1800.

DR. AIKIN TO MR. PINKERTON. 147

Upon the subject of the Botany of Scotland.—April 8, 1800.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 148

Regarding the *Iconographia Scotica*.—April 10, 1800.

MR. ROSS TO MR. PINKERTON. 150

That he has sent him the portraits of Dame Marian Livingstone and of Jameson.—April 16, 1800.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 151

With extracts from Anderson's notes of papers in the Paper-office.—April 18, 1800.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 153

Thanks for drawings of portraits.—April 19, 1800.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 154

With an extract from a note by Mr. Astle.—April 22, 1800.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 155

Begging assistance on Mineralogy.—May 4, 1800.

DR. TOWNSON TO MR. PINKERTON. 156

With mineralogical information and advice.—May 20, 1800.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 158

Recommendation of the study of mineralogy: advice to Dr.

Page

Barry for his History of the Orkneys: and introduction of Mr. Mawe.—May 24, 1800.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 161

His opinion of Leyden's Sketch of Discoveries in Africa, and his materials for his new work.—May 29, 1800.

DR. TOWNSON TO MR. PINKERTON. 163

Respecting the *Saxum metalliferum* and *Nebengestein*.—June 8, 1800.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 165

His History published: a request for papers from the Cottonian Library.—June 21, 1800.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 168

Chiefly on subjects connected with mineralogy.—June 28, 1800.

MR. A. F. TYTLER TO MR. PINKERTON. 169

Explaining that he is not the author of a Life of Allan Ramsay, in which remarks had been made unfavorable to Mr. Pinkerton.—July 1, 1800.

MR. JOHN MAWE TO MR. PINKERTON. 171

Account of a tour from Evan-bridge foot to Oban.—July 6, 1800.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 176

His opinion of A. Ramsay.—July 8, 1800.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 177

Mr. Thomson about to write the Life of Lord Hailes, and publish a new edition of his works.—July 9, 1800.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 178

A letter of explanation and expostulation.—July 12, 1800.

MR. MAWE TO MR. PINKERTON. 182

Continuation of his Scotch tour—from Oban, through Mull and Staffa to Strontian.—July 12, 1800.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 186

Promising geographical and mineralogical information, and praising Dr. Currie's edition of Burns.—July 28, 1800.

MR. ARTHUR AIKIN TO MR. PINKERTON. 188

Critique on Mr. Pinkerton's new arrangement of Mineralogy.—Sept. 7, 1800.

MR. G. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 190

With various information on Scotch Mineralogy.—Sept. 10, 1800.

Page

LADY ANCRAM TO MR. PINKERTON. 193

Touching several portraits at Newbottle Abbey.—Sept. 10, 1800.

REV. THOMAS MAURICE TO MR. PINKERTON. 196

Sending him a volume of his *Indian Antiquities*, and asking him to get it noticed in the Critical Review.—Sept. 18, 1800.

MR. HATCHETT TO MR. PINKERTON. 197

Acknowledging the receipt of his new arrangement of Mineralogy, and remarking upon it.—Dec. 29, 1800.

SIR W. OUSELEY TO MR. PINKERTON. 199

With information on Persian geography.—March 23, 1801.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 201

Account of his journey from London to Constantinople.—March 24, 1801.

CAPTAIN MENDOZA TO MR. PINKERTON. 204

Upon books respecting Spanish America.—Jan. 22, 1802.

MR. VINCE TO MR. PINKERTON. 205

Respecting the Introduction to his Geography.—Feb. 9, 1802.

MESSRS. CADELL AND DAVIES TO MR. PINKERTON. 206

Terms to be paid him for the Abridgement of his Geography.—Feb. 13, 1802.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 207

In praise of Scott's *Border Minstrelsy*.—Feb. 18, 1802.

MR. MAWE TO MR. PINKERTON. 208

Account of Paris, particularly as connected with mineralogy.—March 16, 1802.

MR. BUTLER TO MR. PINKERTON. 204

On Mr. Pinkerton's difference with Cadell and Davies, and his own biblical studies.—March 21, 1802.

MR. MAWE TO MR. PINKERTON. 215

Farther particulars respecting Paris.—April 18, 1802.

SIR WALTER SCOTT TO MR PINKERTON. 218

Respecting the lady called the *Flower of Yarrow*, and a portrait of her.—April 24, 1802.

MR. MAWE TO MR. PINKERTON. 219

Particulars of Lamétrie's collection of minerals and the Parisian Mineralogists.—May 2, 1802.

Page

MR. MAWE TO MR. PINKERTON. 222

A continuation of the same subject as the preceding, and list of the coins of the French Republic.—May 14, 1802.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 225

Acknowledges the receipt of some books, and states his intention of going to Paris.—May 15, 1802.

MR. S. HAMILTON TO MR. PINKERTON. 226

Urging him to aid the sale of the *Critical Review* at Paris: asking his opinion of a work with plates of the pictures in the Louvre, and giving details of the elections in England.—July 15, 1802.

MR. A. AIKIN TO MR. PINKERTON. 229

Respecting the *Abridgement of Modern Geography*, and giving some particulars of the mineralogy of North Wales.—Aug. 26, 1802.

MR. KIRWAN TO MR. PINKERTON. 231

Praise of his *Modern Geography*, and observations upon some parts of it.—Oct. 10, 1802.

MR. DOUCE TO MR. PINKERTON. 233

On miscellaneous subjects of science and literature.—Nov. 5, 1802.

MR. A. AIKIN TO MR. PINKERTON. 236

The progress made in printing the *Abridgement of Modern Geography*.—Nov. 13, 1802.

THE ABBE' DE LA RUE TO MR. PINKERTON. 238

Praise of his *Dissertation on the Ancient Scythians*, and asking his opinion on the origin of the word "Goblin."—Feb. 22, 1803.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 247

On Ossian's Poems, and on Macpherson's, prior to the publication of them.—March 9, 1803.

THE ABBE' HAÜY TO MR. PINKERTON. 249

With thanks for a present of minerals.—April 23, 1803.

MESSRS. CADELL AND DAVIES TO MR. PINKERTON. 251

On their differences respecting *Modern Geography* and the *Abridgement*.—April 27, 1803.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 254

With memoranda for the French translator of his *Essay on the Irish Bards*, and an account of his progress in the History of the Italian Drama, and his character of Preston's translation of the Argonautics and Fuseli's Lectures.—April 28, 1803.

Page

M. GOSSELLIN TO MR. PINKERTON. 259

In elucidation of Ptolemy's account of Scotland.—April 30, 1803.

MADAME GORDON TO MR. PINKERTON. 268

Wishing him to undertake the publication of Col. Gordon's manuscripts.—June 3, 1803.

M. ORCHOWSKI TO MR. PINKERTON. 271

History of the Literature of Poland during the 15th, 16th, and 17th centuries.—Nov. 22, 1803.

M. ORCHOWSKI TO MR. PINKERTON. 280

State of Poland during the 18th century.—Jan. 5, 1804.

M. ORCHOWSKI TO MR. PINKERTON. 293

Polish Literature in the 18th century.—March 10, 1804.

MR. PINKERTON TO ———. 306

Describing Col. Gordon's manuscripts and offering them for publication.—April 20, 1804.

MADAME GORDON TO MR. PINKERTON. 309

Negociation for the sale of her husband's manuscripts.—April 27, 1804.

MESSRS. LONGMAN AND CO. TO MR. PINKERTON. 314

A new edition of *Modern Geography* required.—Nov. 14, 1804.

MR. PINKERTON TO MESSRS. LONGMAN AND CO. 314

In answer to the preceding.—Dec. 8, 1804.

MESSRS. CADELL AND DAVIES TO MR. PINKERTON. 317

Proposals for settling the differences between them respecting the *Modern Geography*.—Feb. 11, 1805.

MR. GILBERT LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 320

Congratulating him on his escape from France, and giving information on Scotch Mineralogy, and on books of Travels.—Oct. 28, 1805.

SIR WILLIAM OUSELEY TO MR. PINKERTON. 325

A letter of friendship.—Nov. 16, 1805.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING. 326

Upon his History.—Dec. 6, 1805.

DR. SHAW TO MR. PINKERTON. 327

On the zoological part of his *Modern Geography*.—Jan. 11, 1806.

Page

MR. MONROE TO MR. PINKERTON. 328

In approbation of his *Modern Geography* as concerns America, and sending farther information on that subject.—Jan. 20, 1806.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON. 331

Sending a manuscript of a projected work on Sicily.—March 5, 1806.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON. 334

Thanks for the French Translation of his Dissertation; and information respecting Chalmers's *Caledonia*, and an intended critique upon Bruce.—March 12, 1806.

MR. D. B. WARDEN TO MR. PINKERTON. 336

Literary news from Paris.—March 18, 1806.

MADAME GORDON TO MR. PINKERTON. 339

Urging him to dispose of her manuscripts without delay.—April 19, 1806.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 341

Inquiry as to the French translation of his *Essay on the Irish Bards*, and praise of Mr. Mathias' efforts in favor of Italian literature.—Aug. 26, 1806.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. J. C. WALKER. 343

On the French translations of Mr. Walker's works, and urging him to reprint *Heron's Letters* at Dublin.—Sept. 14, 1806.

MR. D. B. WARDEN TO MR. PINKERTON. 345

Information of maps of South America: Mr. Pinkerton's character misrepresented at Paris: General Armstrong unpopular in America.—Oct. 2, 1806.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 350

Sending his *Essay on the Revival of the Drama in Italy*, and mentioning Mr. Roscoe and Lord Holland.—Oct. 2, 1806.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR J. C. WALKER. 353

Remarks on the *Essay on the Italian Drama*.—Jan. 15, 1807.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON. 353

Thanks for the remarks in the preceding letter, and stating the plan of his work.—Jan. 22, 1807.

REV. DR. WILCOCKE TO MR. PINKERTON. 355

Sources of the Notes to his translation of Stavorinus's Voyages.—April 26, 1807.

Page

SIR JOS. BANKS TO MR. PINKERTON. 359

That he has no longer any influence with the French Government for the release of the *détenus*.—June 6, 1807.

MR. JOHN ALLEN TO MR. PINKERTON. 360

On the critique upon the new edition of his *Modern Geography* in the Edinburgh Review.—Oct. 24, 1807.

CAPTAIN STONE TO MR. PINKERTON. 364

Advice to him in the publication of his Atlas.—Nov. 16, 1807.

THE MARCHIONESS OF STAFFORD TO MR. PINKERTON. 367

Respecting her own etchings, and portraits at Dunrobin.—Jan. 19, 1808.

THE EARL OF SEAFORTH TO MR. PINKERTON. 369

Answers to some queries respecting the Mineralogy of the Hebrides, and enclosing Mr. Headrick's report on the Isle of Lewis.—Feb. 11, 1808.

REV. DR. WILCOCKE TO MR. PINKERTON. 381

With a list of Dutch voyages to the East Indies.—Oct. 5, 1808.

MR. KIRWAN TO MR. PINKERTON. 386

Remarks upon geology.—May 9, 1809.

MESSRS. CADELL AND DAVIES TO MESSRS. LONGMAN AND CO. 387

Enumeration of Mr. Pinkerton's complaints respecting his Atlas, and answers to them.—March 2, 1810.

THE MARCHIONESS OF STAFFORD TO MR. PINKERTON. 391

Consenting to purchase the Gordon collection of manuscripts and drawings.—March 30, 1810.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. J. B. NICHOLS. 392

Remonstrating upon some article in the *Gentleman's Magazine*. —March 31, 1810.

MR. PINKERTON TO MESSRS. LONGMAN & CO. 393

Complaining of his treatment regarding the Atlas.—April 5, 1810.

SIR RUFANE DONKIN TO MR. PINKERTON. 397

Respecting the Greek Theatre at Syracuse, and a passage on Thucydides and another in Livy.—April 26, 1811.

MR. H. SIDDONS TO MR. PINKERTON. 403

Thanking him for the perusal of his Tragedy, and recommending it should be offered to Drury Lane.—Dec. 1, 1812.

Page

MR. H. SIDDONS TO MR. PINKERTON. 404

Ill success of his Tragedy when acted at Edinburgh.—March 24, 1813.

MR. H. WEBER TO MR. PINKERTON. 406

His objects in his intended Tour in Scotland, and apologies for the imperfections in the Index to the *Collection of Voyages and Travels*.—April 7, 1813.

MR. DEMPSTER TO MR. PINKERTON. 408

A letter of friendship.—June 8, 1813.

REV. DR. STUART TO MR. PINKERTON. 410

Enclosing a drawing of two stones at Newton, with curious inscriptions and sculpture.—Oct. 20, 1813.

REV. DR. STUART TO MR. PINKERTON. 412

With a drawing of two other similar stones.—Nov. 3, 1813.

MR. DEMPSTER TO MR. PINKERTON. 415

On his wish to obtain a situation in the Register Office.—Nov. 30, 1813.

REV. DR. STUART TO MR. PINKERTON. 416

Continuation of the same subject as his two preceding letters. —Dec. 20, 1813.

MR. GEO. ROBERTSON TO MR. PINKERTON. 420

With a drawing of the Church of Arbuthnot.—Dec. 22, 1813.

REV. JOHN BLACK TO MR. PINKERTON. 422

Quoting a passage from Aldus's edition of Cicero, concerning the mark of a red rose on Crichton's face.—Jan. 17, 1814.

LORD FREDERICK CAMPBELL TO MR. DEMPSTER. 424

In answer to a request that he would serve Mr. Pinkerton.—Feb. 15, 1814.

REV. JAMES MILLER TO MR. PINKERTON. 425

Traditional history of the stone at Strik-Martin.—Feb. 21, 1814.

REV. DR. STUART TO MR. PINKERTON. 428

An account of the foundations of old circular buildings at Dalmaik, with a description of Burgh-head and remarks on the place where Duncan I. was murdered.—Feb. 28, 1814.

REV. JAMES MILLER TO MR. PINKERTON. 432

Description of the scenery of Isla.—March 5, 1814.

Page

LORD GRENVILLE TO MR. PINKERTON. 436

Encouraging him to proceed in his plan for publishing the early English Historians.—Aug. 3, 1814.

MR. ROSCOE TO MR. PINKERTON. 441

Thanks for a medal of Napoleon, and information about the Liverpool Institution.—Aug. 30, 1814.

SIR WILLIAM OUSELEY TO MR. PINKERTON. 443

With a description of the line of his Travels.—Sept. 5, 1814.

THE EARL OF SHEFFIELD TO MR. PINKERTON. 449

On the publication of the 8vo. edition of *Gibbon's Miscellaneous Works*.—Sept. 26, 1814.

THE EARL OF SHEFFIELD TO MR. PINKERTON. 453

On the same subject as the preceding.—Oct. 5, 1814.

LORD GRENVILLE TO MR. PINKERTON. 454

Advice as to the publication of the early English Historians.—Oct. 11, 1814.

MR. LONGMAN TO MR. PINKERTON. 455

Declining to undertake the publication of the early English Historians.—Oct. 24, 1814.

MR. PINKERTON TO THE PRINCE REGENT. 456

Praying for patronage towards his intended publication of the early English Historians.

REV. DR. INGRAM TO MR. PINKERTON. 457

In explanation of the sculpture on the stones at Pitmachie.—Nov. 26, 1814.

MR. COUTTS TO MR. PINKERTON. 459

A letter of business, most honorable to the writer.—Jan. 31, 1815.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. STUART TO MR. PINKERTON.

London, Feb. 21st, 1797.

IMMEDIATELY after the receipt of Mr. Pinkerton's letter of the 18th, Mr. Stuart had occasion to see the Lord Chancellor, who, not knowing where Mr. Pinkerton's book was to be purchased, had borrowed a copy from a friend of his to whom a copy had been sent. His lordship seemed much satisfied with such parts of it as he had hitherto had time to read, and will take the first opportunity of reading the whole. Mr. Stuart communicated to him the paragraph in Mr. Pinkerton's letter, intimating, that, on using his name, a copy may be got from Mr. Dilly before publication.

Mr. Stuart has already embraced every opportunity that has occurred of recommending the perusal and purchase of the History in question, and will continue to do so; persuaded that those

who listen to his recommendation will think their time and their money exceedingly well bestowed. This is the opinion formed after reading the first volume only; for, in consequence of some pressing business that has lately engaged Mr. Stuart's attention, he has not as yet got further than the first volume, which has served to increase his appetite for reading the second.

Mr. Stuart takes this opportunity of forwarding by the bearer, for Mr. Pinkerton's perusal at a leisure hour, a dissertation in French on the Origin and Nature of the Office of Seneschal, traced from the earliest period, and the different countries of Europe. The French antiquary, author of this work, seems to have bestowed upon the subject much labor and research of books; but wishes, before giving reliance to the authorities quoted, to know what impression they make on Mr. Pinkerton, who is much better acquainted with the books referred to than Mr. Stuart can pretend to be.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

St. Valeri, Bray, March 13th, 1797.

I am honored with your valuable favor of the 1st instant. As you seem pleased with the Irish romance, I am happy in being able to send you another. You may keep both until it shall per-

fectly suit your convenience to get them transcribed.

I cannot accord in opinion with you on the subject of *Heron's Letters*. I think they abound in learned and ingenious observations. I have few books in my collection which I value so highly.

I feel infinitely obliged by your kind offer of service; but I commissioned a friend in London some time ago to purchase for me such Italian books as I particularly want. My present collection is not inconsiderable: I brought a good many from Italy;* and, at the late sale of an Italian bookseller in Dublin, I got several more.

Allow me to thank you, by anticipation, for the Italian tragedy. Manso's Life of *Tasso* I shall gladly accept, provided you will inform me what book I shall send you in return.

Your advice in regard to the Spanish language shall be attended to. I have long wished to be better acquainted with that noble tongue. As soon as I dispatch an army of Italian poets and historians that are now drawn up before me, I shall attack it in form, beginning with the work

* It was in 1791, that Mr. Walker visited Italy; and his tour likewise embraced parts of Germany, France, Switzerland, Holland, and Flanders. In all these countries, and also in his various journeys through Great Britain and Ireland, the greater portion of which he had seen, he kept regular journals, which are now in the hands of his brother, who edited his posthumous work, the *Memoirs of Tassoni*, and who, it is to be hoped, will give them to the world, as he allows us to anticipate from a note in the Biographical Memoir prefixed to that publication.

which you obligingly recommend. On all occasions you will find me ready and happy to follow any advice with which you may honor me.

You are so good as to inquire after my little work: it is in great forwardness. In the course of a few weeks I shall begin the fair transcript. Ouseley has made a bargain with a bookseller for me. I am obliged to Cadell for *not* acceding to my very moderate terms. I have since considerably extended my acquaintance with Italian literature, and received satisfactory answers to several interrogatories which I sent to Italy.

As soon as I have dismissed my *Memoir*, I shall prepare for the press a manuscript journal in my possession of a very sensible traveller, who made a tour of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, in 1634. Your learned and ingenious friend, the Bishop of Dromore, read the manuscript, and urged the publication.*

Permit me to ask if any writer of eminence be at present employed on a Life of Sir W. Jones. My friend Mr. Hayley sent me his sweet *Elegy*† the other day—I am charmed with it. But it is not as a poet only that Hayley shines: in his Life of Milton he has displayed great biographical powers. I hope he will occasionally pursue that walk: indeed I wish he would become the biographer of Jones.

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* It does not appear that Mr. Walker ever carried into effect his intention of publishing this journal.

† *Elegy on the Death of Sir William Jones*, London, 1795, 4to.—Lord Teignmouth's Life of that very distinguished scholar was not published till 1804.

Poor Lord Orford! English literature has lost in him one of its most elegant ornaments. I hope some friend will give us memoirs of his life in the manner of Mason's Memoirs of Gray. His letters are charming. He honored me with a few, which I esteem highly. His friend Lord Charlemont and I exerted ourselves to prevent the publication of his *Mysterious Mother* in Dublin. Failing in this attempt, I attended the work through the press, and am happy in being able to say that the Dublin edition is one of the most correct editions of that incomparable drama.

I date from a sweet little place which I have taken in the county of Wicklow. At the foot of my lawn, three small rivers unite, and flow in one large body through a romantic valley to the sea. From the windows of my study I enjoy a peep into the Dargle; and two majestic mountains form the back-ground of the picture; but, should you ever visit Ireland, I hope you will afford me an opportunity of pointing out those beauties to you on the spot. Rest assured you have no friend in the Island of Saints who would be happier in seeing you.

Your hint shall reach Mr. Ledwich; but your name shall be concealed. I hope Mr. Roscoe (who, I understand, is now in London,) may be tempted by the booksellers to continue his History. He has stopped at the dawn of Italian literature. The age of Leo would afford him a fine subject. But he should not confine himself to the house of Medici: elegant literature has more obligations to the house of Este; and, for a history

of that house, ample materials might be found in the collection of the modest and indefatigable Muratori.

MAJOR OUSELEY TO MR. PINKERTON.

March 26th, 1797.

I am sorry I was not at home when you did me the favor of calling. A friend of mine, collecting heads and portraits of eminent *living* writers, has written to me to know where he could get a copy of yours* (without taking it from the book). Has Harding any proofs to spare?

I have just had a letter from my brother in India: he had lately met with Captain Wilford, the first *Sanscrit* scholar living; to whom the East India Company allows 1500 rupees per month for his researches. He is clearing up the route of Alexander, and constructing a map from the sacred *Puranas*. He communicated to my brother a most curious account, from those Sanscrit books, of Great Britain and Ireland; so minute, that the cave called *St. Patrick's Purgatory* is described, and the name in Sanscrit *Pitricsthan* (the seat of the *manes or ancestors*), and the passage to a kind of Tartarus, or purgatorial hell.

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* I have seen four published portraits of Mr. Pinkerton: the one here alluded to, prefixed to his *History of Scotland;* a profile in the European Magazine; a similar portrait, in biscuit, by Wedgwood; and a fourth, engraved for this work, a medallion by Tassie.

This my brother has sent to General Vallancey; and Walker tells me the general will communicate it for the Oriental Collections. Wilford confirms much of Vallancey's *Irish Phœnician Sanscrit* conjectures. I am looking again over your Scythians, to see how this may all correspond.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

June 27th, 1797.

I have, I fear, too long omitted to thank you for Manso's Life of Tasso. But I begged of Major Ouseley to make my acknowledgements acceptable to you; and I trust he did so. It is a charming little production, and so extremely rare, that I do not recollect to have seen three copies of it in the whole course of my literary researches; nor have I ever seen *one* copy of Manso's Life of Marino.

I wish we had some satisfactory notices of Manso himself.* We know too little of that

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* Shortly after, Mr. Walker published some particulars concerning Manso in his *Historical Memoir.* (Appendix No. 5.) Manso was a friend of Milton, who has addressed to him a Latin poem of one hundred lines (*Poetical Works,* VII. p. 355.) entitled *Mansus.* His Life of Tasso, according to Dr. Black, "is the fountain to which the biographers of Tasso in every nation have had recourse; so that, till of late, the numerous eulogies and notices of this great poet are only extracts from and abridgements of that work." Milton speaks of Manso's Lives both of Tasso and Marino:

"Te pridem magno felix concordia Tasso
Junxit, et æternis inscripsit nomina chartis:

accomplished nobleman. I believe I have made the first attempt at ascertaining the site of the villa near Naples, in which he received Tasso and Milton. What I have collected on this subject will appear in my Memoir on Italian Tragedy, if the work itself should ever appear.

Having finished Machiavelli, I engaged in Guicciardini, and found him an historian of the first order. I am now deep in Tiraboschi, a writer of great research and good taste. His life of Testi I have not yet been able to procure; but I have begged of Major Ouseley to have a sharp look-out for a copy. Tiraboschi is very severe on a great favorite of mine, l'Abbé de Sade.*

You say that the first place amongst the lyric poets of Italy is due to Petrarch; the second to Testi. I cheerfully subscribe to your opinion; and I am surprised that a writer of so much merit should be neglected. You, however, have made him known in England; and to know him is to admire him. Indeed Italian literature has many obligations to the author of *Heron's Letters*. They abound too in what I admire, but rarely find—original thinking. Amongst their warmest admirers in this country is Lord Charlemont, a no-

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Mox tibi dulciloquum non inscia Musa Marinum
Tradidit; ille tuum dici se gaudet alumnum,
Dum canit Assyrios Divûm prolixus amores,
Mollis et Ausonias stupefecit carmine Nymphas.
Ille itidem moriens tibi soli debita vates
Ossa, tibi soli, supremaque vota reliquit."

* Author of the Life of Petrarch.

bleman of extensive learning and refined taste. He is the Manso of Ireland.

On the subject of Irish literature, I have nothing to communicate. For some time past our attention has been diverted from every thing pleasurable. No new publications have of late reached me. I have ordered Noble's *House of Medici*, and shall endeavor to get Mr. Lumsden's work.*

I am told Mr. Roscoe is employed on the age of Leo X.; and I hope the report is well founded. The work on that subject promised long since by Dr. Warton in his *Essay on Pope*, has, I believe, never appeared.† A curious book now lies before me, a copy of Plautus which belonged to Menage, with marginal notes in his own hand-writing.

I hope you are again returned to your literary labors. You were entitled to a holiday; but we cannot allow you to be long idle. The Irish romance promised in my last, and which I intended should have accompanied it, shall be forwarded the first opportunity.

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* *Remarks on the Antiquity of Rome and its Environs; being a Classical and Topographical Survey of the Ruins of that ancient and celebrated City, by Andrew Lumsden, Esq.* London, 1797, 4to.

† Unfortunately such was the case; nor did I ever hear that any portion of the work was left in manuscript. But that Mr. T. Warton seriously contemplated it, and even had it in hand, may justly be presumed from the following passage referred to by Mr. Walker. "Concerning the particular encouragement given by Leo X. to polite literature and the fine arts, I forbear to enlarge; *because a friend of mine is at present engaged in writing the History of the Age of Leo X.*—*Essay on Pope*, 1. p. 182.

MR. ROBERT VANS AGNEW TO MR. PINKERTON.

Monmouth, Oct. 30th, 1797.

Having lately read with much pleasure and instruction your *History of Scotland,* and joining in the wish, which I believe to be very general, that you may be induced, not only to write the more early part, but to continue it on to the period when a union blended the two kingdoms into one, I use the liberty to trouble you with this letter, to inform you that I am possessed of a good many original letters from Queen Mary and her two husbands, Francis of France and Darnley, from the Regent, and from King James the Sixth; as also from some of the principal men of Scotland at that time, to the lairds of Barnbarroch,* my ancestors. These letters begin in 1559 and continue on till 1618, being ninety-three in number. I do not think that any thing very essential will be found in the letters; but they may serve to ascertain some dates, and give a curious picture of the manners of the times. From particular circumstances, the old papers of my family have lain for a great number of years in a neglected state. In the course of the examination which I have now caused to be made of them, some other curious papers have already been found; and it

* Sir Patrick Vans of Barnbarroch, in the county of Wigton, knight, married the daughter of Gilbert, third earl of Cassillis, about the middle of the 16th century.

is hoped that more will appear. A journal kept by Sir Patrick Vans when he went ambassador to Denmark, of which we have as yet only found a part, is curious; and there is a very intimate letter from the Earl of Gowrie addressed to his brother, the laird of Barnbarroch, and dated the 6th of August, 1582, at Ruthven Castle, which shows that at that time he had no thoughts of the enterprise which he executed afterwards on the 22nd, and which has been called the "Raid of Ruthven." Yet he mentions in the letter, that, when he writes it, "the King's Majestie is at the house, and is to pass here fra ane of yir two dayes to Atholl to the hunting."

I have only to add that, if at any time you should wish to see any of those papers, they shall be at your disposal. Nisbet's Heraldry, Appendix, p. 250, article Vans of Barnbarroch, will show you what family I represent; the lands of Barnbarroch being still in my possession, and the name of Agnew being assumed by me in obedience to the will of my maternal grandfather, who was of the family of Lochnaw.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

St. Valeri, Bray, Nov. 8th, 1797.

I have the pleasure to send you a pamphlet, which was published a few days since by my friend, General Vallancey.

Some weeks ago, I sent you an Irish romance,

which I hope you have received. A letter, instead of a line, should have accompanied the romance; but, when the opportunity of forwarding it occurred, I was not only ill but deeply occupied. I am still an invalid, and still occupied. However, my present business is of a pleasurable, and (it will probably be thought) of an unimportant nature. I am now, in fact, putting the last hand to my Memoir.* I have found the subject more curious and interesting than I expected I should; and, though I presume I shall be severely lashed by the reviewers, my countrymen will probably thank me one day for opening to them a rich mine of intellectual pleasure hitherto little explored.

I am as grateful for your obliging intention, in regard to your *History*, as if I had gotten it. Major Ouseley acquainted me with the refusal of your printer to indulge you with copies for your friends. As yet, I have only seen a few extracts from the work; but I have seen enough to excite in me a strong desire to see the whole; and I expect the gratification of that desire before the expiration of this month. After such an Herculean labor, you were entitled to a holiday. But I trust you will shortly resume your pen, and continue to instruct and amuse us.

I long for the appearance of Surrey's works.

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* *An Historical Memoir on Italian Tragedy, from the earliest period to the present time: illustrated with specimens and analyses of the most celebrated Tragedies; and interspersed with occasional observations on the Italian Theatres, and biographical notices of the principal Tragic Writers of Italy.* London, 1799, 4to.

The origin of English blank verse, which naturally falls within the editor's plan, is a curious subject, and will, I am sure, be ably treated by our learned and ingenious friend. Dr. Warton has not, I find, acquired much credit by his edition of Pope. He should not have published the *sweepings* of the poet's library.*

I wish Mr. Roscoe would give us a history of the age of Leo. He has done great justice to that of his accomplished father. If Mr. Roscoe be not a powerful historian, he certainly writes with ease, elegance, and (what poor Gibbon failed in) perspicuity. Italian literature has many obligations to Mr. Roscoe, and will, I trust, have more.

THE EARL OF FIFE† TO MR. PINKERTON.

Duff House, December 1st, 1797.

Your letter was sent to me from Fife House, Whitehall: I received it yesterday. I have a very large collection of portraits, many of them very curious and in great preservation. There is

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* Dr. Warton on this account received merited censure from many quarters; but from none more severe or more merited than from the anonymous author of the *Pursuits of Literature*, of the prose portion of which work I feel it impossible to speak in terms of commendation too high; whether I consider the power of its language, the excellence of its principles, or the wonderful grasp and vigor of the mind of the author. Its subject is unfortunately in general of too transitory a nature; but I would say to the young of all times, "Nocturnâ versate manu, versate diurnâ."

† James, second earl, who died in 1809.

in this house one large room full of royal portraits. I do not believe there are any portraits of the kings of Scotland prior to Queen Mary,* or James VI., her son, that can be depended on. There is a very curious portrait of Charles I., when Prince of Wales, painted in the year 1625, by Valasky,† at Madrid: it is in my house at Whitehall. You may see it when you please. I am making out a catalogue of my pictures, which is soon to be printed. If you remind me, I shall certainly send you a copy of it. I shall be in town by Christmas.

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* On the subject of portraits of Queen Mary see Vol. I. p. 375, which is strangely at variance with the following extract from a letter from Mr. Davidson to Mr. Pinkerton, dated Dec. 3rd, 1794, in which he says, speaking of the portraits of Mary, Queen of Scots, "I never heard of any genuine picture of that queen. I know Sir Robert Strange sought for one to engrave, but in vain. There is a picture of her at Hamilton-house, if I recollect, a virago with red hair. It is said in the account of her execution, she for diversion wore hair of different colors. I recollect to have seen a miniature in the king's collection, which belonged to the Duke of Cumberland; but I did not believe it to be genuine. The present Countess of Findlater showed me a copy she had made of a miniature of Mary, from one which the Countess of Warwick had, and which, she said, was to go to Hamilton. Whether it had any marks of originality I know not."—Mr. Pinkerton, in his *Iconographia Scotica*, contents himself with observing that "the fictitious portraits of Mary are infinite." He himself gives four different engravings of her, all unlike each other, and all equally unlike what history represents her to have been. In Mr. Lodge's singularly beautiful work, is an exquisite representation of her, from a picture in the collection of Lord Morton, which every one who feels interested in the story of that unfortunate queen will join me in hoping is genuine.

† *Quære*, Velasquez?

MR. PINKERTON TO THE EARL OF BUCHAN.

Hampstead, Dec. 1st, 1797.

Mr. Harding has consented to let Herbert's name appear in our new prints, which I do not object to, as he was the first publisher. I only wish he had procured more drawings from Scotland; the grand point in which he and Wilkinson not only failed, but saddled me with the expense of such as were procured.

About *thirty* curious subjects still remain in Scotland; and I hope next spring, if Buonaparte will let us, to form some plan of getting at them. The expense will be considerable, as they are in remote quarters; and the conduct of Herbert and Wilkinson to the few artists we have in that line, will, I believe, render it necessary to employ a good English artist, for which a fund of near a hundred pounds will be requisite; but, as this will seal and close up the work with *éclat*, I hope to accomplish it, though I should myself lay down half the money. I have indeed had more trouble with this work, by which I shall be out of pocket, than with publications which have amply repaid my labor.

I wish your lordship would inform us about the Sir Andrew Fraser you sent, the plate being ready.

If you could favor us with the date of the marriage of Mary Ramsay to James, second Earl of

Buchan, of the name of Erskine, about A.D. 1630, and of her death, these circumstances might tend to ascertain which Countess of Buchan is represented in the print from Mr. Bull's drawing.

There is a print after Vandyke of *Anne*, Countess of Morton. In Douglas' Peerage, *Agnes* Keith is the only countess contemporary with Vandyke. Granger's account of the lady corresponds with *Elizabeth*, the next countess in Douglas; and he quotes a charter for it. What are we to think?

Of all our kings we have now authentic representations from Robert I., except of Robert II. and III. Perhaps copies by Jameson or other representations may exist, and might, by inquiry, or a line in a Scotish Magazine, be discovered. To complete this series would be a great point. Of the queens, Mary of Gelder is most to be wished, being alone wanting from Robert III. to the end.

Mr. Gardiner has made a fine drawing of the Marquis of Bute's picture. I subjoin a note of the chief remaining subjects in Scotland.

At Newbottle . . .	Mary of Guise. Car, Earl of Somerset. Regent Morton. Earl of Forth.
These two much wanted; they are also at Inverary	Earl of Argyle. Marquis of Argyle.
Dalkeith	Countess of Buccleugh. Lady Eglinton.
Dupplin	Four of the family.
Tarnaway	The bonny Earl of Murray and Lady.

Hamilton	Lauderdale and Lanark. Regent Chatelheraut. Alexander Henderson. Mary Scott, "the Flower of Yarrow."
Holyrood House . .	James IV. in fur (*Pennant*).
Advocates' Library . .	Mackenzie, Dalrymple.
College Edinburgh . .	Principals Rolloch and Carstairs.
Bruce of Arnot's . .	Sir William Bruce. Duchess of Lauderdale.
Earl of Stair's . . .	Viscount Stair.
Inch, near Edinburgh .	President Gilmour.
Mellerstan House . .	Bailie of Jerviswood.
Balcolmy	Scott of Scotstarvet.
Lee	Lockhart the Ambassador.

N.B. Mr. Douglas of Cavers knows of no Earl of Douglas there. There is no Robert II. at Strawberry Hill.

Which General Johnston at London has Sir Archibald Johnston of Wariston?

If Mr. Bell, the engraver at Edinburgh, would send a drawing of Scougal the painter, it would be acceptable.

Mr. Pennant informs me the Cardinal Beaton is false. It is indeed too modern. A real Beaton is said to exist in Fife.

MAJOR OUSELEY TO MR. PINKERTON.

December 23rd, 1797.

I regret extremely not having been at home when you called yesterday: particularly I would have endeavored to prevail on you to dine with us, and meet in the evening Mr. Douce, who, in

consequence of your letter, was so good as to call and spend three hours with me last night. I like him very much, and must thank you for having procured me so valuable an acquaintance.

Mrs. Ouseley's illness, almost ever since I saw you, has prevented me from attending to many things I otherwise should have done. Pray let me know what day you can again come into town; and I shall take care to stay at home. I have just corrected the second sheet of our first number of *Oriental Collections.**

You have been pleased to mention me very handsomely to Walker: he, wishing to please my father, quoted your words to him; and my father says on the subject, "in order to know the full value of this eulogium, it is necessary you should read Gibbon's character of Mr. Pinkerton," &c. &c.

You see it is not *scandal* alone that flies on eagles' wings. I have now ready for publication an Essay on the Lyric Poetry of the Persians, which will make near three hundred pages 4to. Besides a general essay and extracts from near thirty different poets, it contains specimens of the style of all the best poets (eight or ten), comprised in about forty odes or sonnets, all translated literally, notes, &c. &c.; the obscure allusions to ancient history, mythology, and romance explained, &c. I have worked greatly *con amore* on this.

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* Four Numbers only of this work were published; the first two in 1797, the remainder in 1799.

DR. BEDDOES * TO MR. PINKERTON.

December 23rd, 1797.

I hope you will permit me, though a stranger, to endeavor to avail myself of your antiquarian knowledge towards the elucidation of a very interesting question. I wish to discover the relative frequency of consumption at different periods; and your erudition may easily enable you to point out to me some passages in old writers which may throw light upon the question. I should be much obliged to you for references to any passages which you can recall with little trouble, where prevalent diseases are most distinctly enumerated, whether poetical or prosaic, as that of Longland†:

> "Kynde conscience then heard, and came out of the planets,
> And sent forth his furies, fevers, and fluxes, &c."

I trust you will pardon the liberty of this application, on the ground of a custom which seems to be established in the republic of letters, that persons pursuing different tracks of inquiry should occasionally hold out light to one another, which must prove beneficial to all.

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* Thomas Beddoes, M.D., well known for his numerous medical publications.

† Longland, Robert, the reputed author of the *Visions* of *Pierce Plowman*.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, January 22nd, 1798.

Your favors of the 18th ult. and January 16th are now before me. I am obliged to you for your trouble about Robert II. and III. Mr. Tassie is now doing medals of some of our kings from genuine portraits.

As to Gowrie's Conspiracy, I believe I must let it lie by a little. These times are so strange and portentous, that literature must go to bed and sleep for a few years.

The drawing of James IV. came safe, and in good condition. Excuse my hinting that by a late act no frank can exceed one ounce in weight; and this costs 3*s.* 4*d.* This I only mention as a caveat on future occasions. The portrait is fine and interesting. I hope the artist has not *beautified* the face, a common fault in modern artists. I suppose it is by Caldwall; and two guineas is the price I allowed him for such pieces in colors. I subjoin a little note to my agent to repay. How do you come on with your history?

MR. WILSON TO SIR JOHN SINCLAIR.*

Cullen House, Feb. 17th, 1798.

I received by last post a letter from Lady Grant, of Grant, requesting that I would send a description of two pictures in this house done by Jameson.† This request I shall comply with, with the greatest pleasure; but I am much afraid I shall not be able to make myself understood.

One of the pictures is of himself, drawn with his round hat on, a quarter length, as large as the life. It has a large fore-ground, divided into squares of about six inches, of which there are ten, and in each a figure of a man or woman; some of them full lengths, others half lengths, and some of them quarter lengths. He is looking you in the face, and with his left-hand on a table, with his right-hand over it, with the fore-finger of which he is pointing to these small figures, which are said to represent all his best paintings. He

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* This letter was inclosed in one from Sir John Sinclair to Mr. Pinkerton, stating that the writer is Lord Findlater's manager. Sir John adds that he finds there is no portrait extant of any Lord Reay, prior to the first George, Lord Reay.

† It is very remarkable that Mr. Pennant, who visited Cullen House, (*Tour in Scotland*, i. p. 152,) and was very keen in his search after pictures, especially portraits, should have taken no notice of two so remarkable as those described in this letter. Nor are they mentioned in Lord Orford's Life of Jameson.

is drawn in a black jacket, with the neck of his shirt, or a white band turned over the neck of it: he has his pallet on his left-hand, which rests on the table. The picture within the frame is two feet ten inches broad, and about two feet eight inches high. I am much afraid this description will convey a very imperfect idea of so fine a painting.

Of the other I am perfectly at a loss how to convey any sort of idea. The principal object in it seems to be an imperial crown overturned, with the bottom uppermost, and all the insignia of royalty, such as the sceptre, baton of power, a royal standard, &c., lying in a heap upon it, or scattered around it; near these is a scroll of paper with the appearance of being printed: a little lower down is a crimson velvet casket or chest, with the lid opened; and on one side of the chest appear pearl necklaces and toys of different kinds hanging carelessly over it: at the bottom, at the right-hand side, is a small figure about four inches long, badly executed, of King Charles I., which looks as if done with red chalk, on a white ground: this picture is three feet six inches high, and two feet eight inches broad. It would have given me much pleasure had it been in my power to give you a more distinct idea of these pictures than any thing you can learn from this letter.

Some of the squares in the first picture have two or three figures in them; and there is in one of them a sea-piece.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, March 2nd, 1798.

Last week I returned the Anecdotes of Cromwell, together with an original letter from Gowrie at Padua. To-day I inclose a transcript of the first page of the Privy Seal record, for which I am indebted to the friendship of the Messrs. Robertson of the Register Office. You will observe from this specimen, that the record contains nothing but *the abbreviates*, or minutes of letters, &c. As to *patents*, there are none in that record; patents of honor passing, *per saltum*, under the Great Seal. I understand that the oldest patent known is that of the Glencairn peerage, found in the archives of that family, and dated March 7th, 1488, long before any patents were recorded or supposed, till this one was discovered, to exist in Scotland. As it is printed in consequence of the present competition for the peerage, Mr. Chalmers (I mean the solicitor) may supply you with a copy.

The earliest comptroller's account is about 1512, including a few articles of the preceding year. There are no treasurer's accounts so early as 1460. I have a prospect of procuring copies of such accounts as you want, through the intervention of private friendship; but the difficulties of procuring transcripts here is, that there are few acquainted with old hand-writings, and these so engrossed in business that it is difficult to tax

their friendship or their time. I know of none but the Messrs. Robertson, and a gentleman in the exchequer, able to read these hands; for I must confess my own ignorance with shame.

This leads me to mention a scandalous pamphlet against you by Anderson, whom you once employed; not that it requires or deserves an answer, which I think would be improper, for it carries its own refutation along with it. The information which you were obliged to purchase, you are entitled to use as your own; and Mr. Anderson has no reason to complain; especially as he had an opportunity to recall it by withdrawing his charge. But he has either misinformed, or neglected to give you proper information of the character and invariable practice of the keepers of the records; in which he is the less excusable, as, in the course of his employment for others, he had particular access to know the fact. The Messrs. Robertson have neither exacted nor accepted fees of office, from motives of private curiosity or literary investigation. On the contrary, they have frequently contributed much labor and time, and some expense, in researches to aid the literary pursuits of others. Their personal labor they can no longer bestow; but their records are still open and accessible *gratis* to every literary man; and I am mistaken if some communications which you have received from Edinburgh have not been originally derived from their voluntary researches. I am the more desirous to do justice to the liberality of these gentlemen, that you may not apprehend the records of exchequer to be lodged

with them. They are contained, indeed, in the register office; but are under the custody of the clerks of exchequer.

I have just observed from Anderson's account of the records, that it is a patent of invention that you want from the Privy Seal record. As Mr. Robertson, when I applied to him, was employed in the perusal of that record, such patents must have occurred to him, had they existed there. I do not believe that a patent for the introduction of any art or invention, printing excepted, was granted earlier than the monopolizing reign of James VI. Tanning leather was not introduced till 1620; and it is difficult to conjecture what simpler art could be the subject of a lucrative patent at a much earlier period.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, March 14th, 1798.

My wife and I often talked of you with anxiety, the weather being so extreme when you went away. I am glad you are safe; but at the same time must condole on your disorder, which I hope is now completely gone. Many thanks for the literary intelligence: command me freely, if I can serve you in return.

My little affairs I leave to your judgment, not doubting that you will act as for yourself. All I wish is, that you would employ some writer not

unfriendly to my literary or political ideas; and, if he have some inclination towards literary pursuits, so much the better.

At such a distance, punctual correspondence is invaluable; and I hope you will recommend it. I have suffered real loss from Henderson's neglect of this plain maxim of business.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

St. Valeri, Bray, March 24th, 1798.

Your last favor has remained too long unacknowledged. I could plead in excuse frequent indisposition, and the distracted state of this unhappy country, where "leggo il tradimento in ogni fronte;" but I will tell the simple truth: A friend, who wished to trouble you with an interrogatory concerning some of the northern nations, begged I might communicate it: I promised to do so; and, in daily expectation of a letter from him, postponed acknowledging yours. But his letter is not yet arrived; and I am ashamed to be longer silent.

I am glad you have received the tale and pamphlet. As I am in no immediate want of the Irish Tales, I beg you may not return them till you have had them transcribed. The pamphlet is, as you observe, a little wild; but etymology is a kind of Popish guide.

I am happy to find you are employed on the

Scotish portraits. Biography, in such hands, becomes highly amusing and instructive. I have long endeavored in vain to procure Drummond's poems. At length, through the active kindness of our friend, Major Ouseley, I have succeeded; and the book is now on its way to me. I shall, as you desire, read it with a view to the author's obligation to the Italian poets.

My little work is in the press, and will, I hope, soon appear. One of the first copies shall be laid at your feet. Though it has cost me some thinking and much research, it will, I fear, do me little credit. Mr. Roscoe is certainly a most pleasing writer: there is a clearness and simple elegance in his style, which, I must confess, delights me. The obscurity of Gibbon proceeds from affectation, or rather perhaps from his entertaining too elevated an idea of the importance of the historian's character, which he seems to think should be supported with pomp. He often reminds me of a pagan deity speaking through a cloud. But I am decidedly of opinion that he was one of the greatest historians that ever existed. His attacks on Christianity have raised him an host of enemies; but he is covered with a shield of adamant, from which their shafts fall blunted to the ground.

The style of the day is undoubtedly too verbose: the fruit, when there happens to be any, is often lost in the leaves. This may perhaps be ascribed to the great number of periodical publications which have issued from the press in the course of this century. Productions of that kind are, we may say, written by *measure;* therefore the

chief object of the writer would be defeated by condensation. It is only such writers as Gibbon and yourself, whose minds teem with knowledge, and who do not write to live, that can condense and refine a language. Is it Balsac who apologises for the length of a letter, by saying he had no time to write a short one?

Anxious to put the last hand to my Memoir, I have not read any of the new publications, nor do I know what is promised. But I hope soon to be at leisure; and then I shall look around me. A translation of Mr. Tenhove's work and some remains of Dr. Robertson have, I am told, appeared; but I hear nothing of *the Life of Leo X.* promised long since, in the *Essay on the Genius and Writings of Pope.*

You first directed my notice to Testi; and I am now become enamored of him. Permit me to ask when and where the best edition of his poems was published. My edition is that of *Venice*, 1678; and a very bad one it is. I have begged of Ouseley to get me, if possible, his *Vita* by Tiraboschi. Did not Tiraboschi publish a work, entitled, *Biblioteca Modenese?** Of his *Storia della Letteratura Ita-*

* Tiraboschi was librarian at Modena, where he published the work here alluded to by Mr. Walker in 4 vols. 4to. So much was it esteemed, that Zaccaria, in the brief account of Tiraboschi's life contained in his letter to Ciocchi, tells us that, in token of his satisfaction, Duke Hercules III. "gli diede il titolo di cavaliere e di suo consigliere, e lo dichiarò presidente della ducal biblioteca e della ducal galleria delle medaglie. E perchè potesse con maggior agio e con più libertà continuare le sue letterarie imprese a pubblica utilità, gli accrebbe gli appurtamenti, e l' esentè dalla personale assistenza alla sua biblioteca."

liana, (which I have consulted with profit and pleasure,) I am in daily expectation of a copy from Harding. I should consider my collection of Italian books very incomplete without it. It was the copy of a friend which I consulted during the progress of my work.

I am surprised that no better translation of the Merope of Maffei has appeared than that of Mr. Ayre. It is faithful, we must acknowledge; but it only preserves the *ashes,* not the *flame.* Nor is the imitation of Aaron Hill much superior to the version of Mr. Ayre. This fine tragedy may therefore be said to be almost unknown to the English reader. I thought myself very fortunate the other day, in getting the elegant edition of the Merope published by the author in Verona, 1745, with annotations, and the French and English versions subjoined.

In the course of your Spanish reading, have you met with *el Diablo predicador?* I was highly amused with an analysis of it, which I lately read in *Essais sur l'Espagne.* It is a most extraordinary production.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

May 12th, 1798.

You cannot conceive, nor I express, the pleasure which the perusal of your *History of Scotland* has afforded me. The plan is admirable, and the exe-

cution equal to the plan. You have attained the object at which you aimed: you have rendered the work "so complete a model of modern history, so perspicuous, interesting, various, animating, and elegant, as to merit general approbation." Your style has all the strength and beauty of Gibbon's, without any of its obscurity. Your characters are drawn with the masterly pencil of Tacitus; and your retrospects are pictures, in which we occasionally discover the minuteness of Teniers, the grace of Raffaelle, and the sublimity of Michael Angelo. In a word, you stand unrivalled among modern historians; and your plan is infinitely superior to that of any of the historians of ancient Greece and Rome; nor are you, in my opinion, inferior to any of them in the execution. Proceed, my dear Sir, in the path into which you have struck with so happy a boldness; and, while laurels are showered on your head, the applause of every lover of elegant literature and historic truth will vibrate on your ear.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

Eccles Street, Dublin,
May 31st, 1798.

Though your obliging favor of the 26th instant has reached me amidst all the horrors of an open rebellion,* I will not lose a moment in ac-

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* The 23d May was the time that had been fixed by the rebel

knowledging it. The praise which I presumed to bestow on your work, I then thought and still think due. It is unquestionably a production of the first order. With every lover of elegant literature, I sincerely hope you will shortly be able to complete the body of Scotish History of which you have given us so interesting a part.

Accept my best thanks for the information concerning Testi. You have heightened my desire to obtain a copy of his *Vita;* and I shall repeat my request to Harding to endeavor to procure me one.

I am too much your admirer not to feel an anxious wish to read and possess your *Rimes.* Perhaps my friend, Mr. Wade, would forward the copy which you are so good as to say you intend to send me. Might I beg of you to favor me, at the same time, with an impression of your portrait; as I purpose, should peace be restored to this unhappy country, to adorn my library with the portraits of such of my favorite authors as I had or have the honor to number with my friends?

It would be highly gratifying to me to see your

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leaders for the breaking out of the insurrection: it was arranged that, on the night following that day, an attack should be made on the army encamped near Dublin, and on the city itself and the castle, while the destruction or detention of the mail-coaches should serve as a signal to the rest of the kingdom. By the blessing of Divine Providence, the government was made acquainted with, and enabled to frustrate, the most destructive of these projects; but open rebellion still burst forth, and, at the time of writing this letter, was raging with such violence and such sanguinary horror all round the metropolis, that it was impossible for any man to consider himself in safety, or to tell what would be the result of the struggle.

tragedy. I shall anxiously await its appearance. In applauding it I am sure your friends only do it justice. I think with you that the chorus is not always necessary to the splendor of tragedy. There is no Greek tragedy more splendid than the *Tancrède* of Voltaire; yet it has no chorus. Excuse, my dear Sir, these crude and hasty remarks. While I write, I can almost hear the din of arms. Every hour brings a bulletin of some bloody engagement in the neighboring counties. Some yeomen and regulars have been killed; but, though the rebels are strong in numbers, they are weak in arms and discipline. The pike, it is true, is a dreadful weapon: indeed the cavalry would find it almost impossible to make any impression on a phalanx of pikemen, if they were not aided by the flying artillery which constantly attends them. Happily, the rebels have no cannon and few muskets: they must therefore be soon subdued. The only pike-head that I have yet seen resembles figure 2. in plate 13. of my *Irish dress;* but the rebels have other weapons which resemble figure 4. in the same plate.

MR. GILBERT LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, June 18th, 1798.

By desire of my brother, Malcolm, I have been at Newbottle House, and taken a slight examination of the portraits. I do not pretend to any skill

in painting; and I beg you will not put too much confidence in my observations. I need not caution you on the uncertainty of information from housekeepers of such houses.

Agreeably to my brother's directions, I inquired for and was shown a picture of the Marquis of Argyle. It is a half-length portrait as large as life. He is dressed in a black gown with a fine linen band round the neck. The face long, a Roman nose, and a strong *cast* in one of the eyes. On his head a black silk cap, fitting close to the head, without border or ornament. His age apparently seventy years. Perhaps the dress was peculiar to the times; but it struck me to be that of an ecclesiastic rather than a nobleman. There are three other portraits of the Argyle family; but this one I have just mentioned is a striking well-painted portrait. The housekeeper called a singularly dressed full-length portrait, the Earl of Argyle; but certainly I think not the son of the Marquis. He had red stockings, very large rose-knots on the shoes, and long slashes in the body and sleeves of his doublet. In short, the same colored stockings, shoe-knots and doublet of a full-length portrait she pointed out as James VI.; the doublet, &c. of the latter being much richer.

One of the most curious portraits is of a Lord Douglas, a three-quarter length; a long stiff black beard divided from the chin into two, each tapering to a point; a short cloak and a vest, apparently buck-skin, cut from the chest to the thighs into longitudinal stripes of two inches broad, and bound with a belt at the waist. If I may hazard

a conjecture, I suppose it the doublet worn below armour, when it was necessary to cut the leather to give pliancy to the body. There are two pictures of this figure, both alike. I observed, besides, portraits of a General Ruthven, Colonel Lumsden, in armour, General Leslie, two portraits (one of them certainly of the Leven family, from a coat of arms in the corner with an earl's coronet), George Buchanan, one or two of the Hamilton family, several of the ancestors of the Lothian family, and three or four heads, supposed to be of the James's, but uncertain, said the housekeeper. They are of a small size, and apparently ancient.

There is also a series of Scotch kings from Malcolm Canmore. I noticed Malcolm, Alexander, David, Robert I., and, I believe, II. Whether they are only a second edition of those in the gallery of Holyrood House I cannot say. It would require a minute comparison. I must observe, however, that there is a costume preserved, that makes me suppose they may be copied from originals. They are almost all of a size, and many done by the same hand. The names of the kings are written with the date of their reign in a corner of the picture. They are too badly done for Jameson; and, being stuck up in a servant's bed-room, are apparently not valued by the family. Several portraits, however, shown as Vandyke's, I suspect are copies by Jameson; for example, three or four of Charles the Second's mistresses. There is a half-length portrait of Queen Mary of Scots: dark brown hair, a very

youthful and cheerful face: dress, a red gown, close from the neck, tight-laced: no ruff round the neck, but large awkward ruffs on each arm, a little below the shoulder, of the same stuff as the gown, and part of it: close sleeves to the wrists. The red is set off by black sewing. In such close, stiff, long-waisted dresses I think Queen Elizabeth is drawn often. Her age is sixteen or seventeen years, I conjecture: the expression of the face did not strike me. There are many well painted-portraits, I suppose from the dress, of the sixteenth or seventeenth century, which the housekeeper could not name; and I apprehend you will find this account a very lame one. If I can find time, I shall go over the pictures again, and take memorandums on the spot of each portrait; but, as Lady Ancram is soon expected, unless I can do so in two or three days I fear it will be too late; and I cannot have time to receive your observations, which might direct me.

In the immediate neighborhood where I reside in summer, is Somerville House. I recollect seeing several well-painted portraits in it of the Vandyke school; some, I fancy, by Vandyke himself. I know not whether any of that family deserve a niche in your work. It would now, however, be difficult to learn the names of the portraits since the late lord's death; and there is no old housekeeper to preserve the records of the pictures. Anxious to give you as minute information as I could, I have swelled my letter too much; but it will give me great satisfaction if I have communicated any thing worth your notice.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

St. Valeri, October 31st, 1793.

I feel exceedingly obliged by your willingness to meet my wishes; but I trust my friend, Mr. Wade, arrived time enough to relieve you from the irksome task of reading my proofs. Though Mr. Wade paid much attention to the work in its progress through the press, it yet abounds in gross errors. A work always suffers by not being printed under the author's eye. Many faults in style, composition, &c. strike in the proof which pass unobserved in the manuscript; and regard to character renders the author more watchful to typographical errors than even the most zealous friend. I fear my work will be found to abound in faults of every kind. I now recollect many things which I would wish "to blot," and I regret the omission of others; but I stand before the tribunal of the public, and must abide its decree. I rejoice at the return of your friend,* and anticipate much pleasure from the perusal of his work. Bruce was so much in the habit of telling untruths, that his relations are not to be relied on.

Buonaparte's plan was a bold one. It was, I believe, suggested by a work of Volney, which appeared at the beginning of the French revolution.

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* Mr. W. G. Browne, who was just returned from Africa, and published his Travels in the course of the following year.

Had the French been allowed to take quiet possession of Egypt,* they would have driven us out of India.

The French republic is tottering, and (if I am not greatly deceived) will soon fall. From the moment it began to carry on a predatory war, I foresaw its dissolution. A war of that kind is generally the last struggle of an exhausted nation.

Vallancey must, as you suppose, be hurt at the conduct of those whose champion he has been. However, he has this consolation: the rebellion began amongst, and was for a considerable time confined to, the descendants of the English and other nations that settled in the counties of Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford. I do not believe it would be possible to find one hundred or even fifty people in those three counties who understand or speak the Irish language. Latterly, indeed, the Milesians have rallied round the standard of rebellion.

You do me too much honor in supposing me capable of treating, as it deserves, the subject which you recommend. To do it justice would require powers much superior to any I can boast; but I am happy in being able to say it has fallen into abler hands. At this moment Sir Richard Musgrave and Mr. Gordon (the geographer) are severally employed on a history of the rebellion. I

* Just at the time of writing this letter, information had been received in England of the destruction of the French fleet by Sir Horatio Nelson at Aboukir, which Mr. Walker seems to have considered would prevent Buonaparte from retaining possession of Egypt.

hope some man of real talents will give us a life of Burke, on the model of Middleton's Life of Cicero. From the active part which Burke took in the literary and political world, his life would afford a fine subject for biography. I believe I mentioned to you that I was once in possession of the minutes of a literary society, to which Burke, while a lad, belonged.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

December 2nd, 1798.

An opportunity just occurring of sending you a few lines,' I avail myself of it to offer you my warmest thanks for the pleasure which I derived from the perusal of your *Rimes*. I read them eagerly, and can truly say they answered in the fullest manner my expectations, which were, indeed, very high. You seem, in fact, (to borrow an expression of your own,) "to have attained the genuine texture of lyric thought and style." You have all the fire of Pindar, with Gray's happy choice of expression. Your Ode on Enthusiasm hurried me out of this world; and your pathetic Tale of *Adelaide* melted me to tears. I lament that the limitation of my time will not allow me to point out some of the beauties with which I was particularly struck. But you would be little gratified by the praise of a man who has proved himself so indifferent a poet in the few versions which I have given of the specimens in my Memoirs, of which, I presume, you have got a copy ere this.

A thousand thanks for your portrait. Though I only saw you once, and for a few minutes, I will venture to pronounce it extremely like.

Since I read your *Rimes*, I am more anxious than ever for the appearance of your play. Have you sent it to Mr. Hayley? Have you read Preston's little Essay on Lyric Poetry in his works?* I think it would please you. He is a very ingenious man: I know him well. I am much pleased with the critical works of Mr. Penn,† which I lately met with.

You mention Eclogues by Gravina. I never heard of them before. I am delighted with the lines from them which you have given; but more with the translation or imitation.

Have you a copy of *Hesperi-neso-Graphia*, or The Western Isles described? (See *Irish Bards* p. 148.) If you have not, I shall have great pleasure in sending you a copy which now lies on my table.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Jan. 5th, 1799.

I was yesterday with Cadell and Davies: the latter seems to have no idea of completing the

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* William Preston, Esq. M.R.I.A., author of a Translation of the Argonautics of Apollonius Rhodius, in 3 vols. 12mo., published, in the Transactions of the Irish Academy, *Thoughts on Lyric Poetry*, 1796.

† The *Critical, Poetical, and Dramatic Works of John Penn, Esq.* were published in 1798, in 2 vols. 8vo.

original 1000*l.*, but said we should not, he was sure, have any difference on the subject, as he was also sure that I should expect nothing but what was fair on both sides. I said, "certainly not;" but reminded him of the first contract. He said they did not expect to gain by a second edition, which commonly sold very slowly. If they could have afforded to give 400*l.* within the two years, it does not appear unreasonable to expect it now. However, knowing that I have no legal claim, I said but little. Respecting any future publication, I must regulate myself by the degree of liberality exhibited with regard to this. The book in the mean time is going to press.

I must call in a day or two to see the note about *green eyes*. It is not easy to explain all the difficulties between me and Andreossi: but I do not believe the Nile ever flowed through the Libyan mountain, which he lays down almost systematically. I shall add a paragraph or two at the end of chap. IV.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

Jan. 19th, 1799.

I fear you will think I have given my sentiments on your *Rimes* with too much freedom;*

* This letter was accompanied by a foolscap sheet full of remarks upon Mr. Pinkerton's *Rimes*, for the most part in terms of high panegyric.

but, as you did me the honor to desire my candid opinion, I thought it incumbent on me to give it without reserve. You will find me a bad critic, but a sincere friend.

I hope your friend, Mr. Browne, is preparing his travels for the press. I expect to derive much new and interesting information from his work. He has explored countries of which little is known in Europe; and he was properly qualified to make observations on what he saw. Obtain from him his opinion of *Gaudentio di Lucca*. Lord Charlemont thinks it is founded in fact; for, when his lordship was in Cairo, a caravan, which had employed five months in travelling across the deserts, arrived; and they described the city from which they came as elegant in its buildings, polished in its manners, and wise in its government. Now his lordship thinks it very probable that Bishop Berkely, who also visited Cairo, conversed with some of the people who attended this caravan, and only related in *Gaudentio di Lucca* what he had learned from them, giving, at the same time, the air and form of a romance to his relation.

As my object was merely *Italian tragedy*, I did not give as much attention as I ought, to the rise of the dramatic art in Italy. But, since I was favored with your last letter, I have considered that subject deeply, and find I could with ease make my Introduction the most curious and not least interesting part of my work. If, therefore, Harding should think that he would be able to get off a second edition of my *Memoir*, I shall re-write the Introduction, and not only avail my-

self of the strictures of such friends as yourself on the body of the work, but exert myself to the utmost to obtain farther information. In the winter catalogues Harding may find all the books for which I have so often written; and during the summer months I might add, correct, and polish. Thus the work would be ready for press early in autumn, and he might publish in October. All, however, must depend on the sale of the first edition, which will not perhaps answer Harding's expectations.

On looking over Crescembeni, I find he mentions the *Didone* of A. de' Pazzi, and refers to Varchi (whose work I have not) for farther information. But I cannot find any where accounts of the writings of Primerani, or the *Fiorenza* of Lorenzino de' Medici. I shall endeavor to get Haym's book; not only that I may read the *Demodice,* but make him full amends for the wrong I did him, by giving a long quotation from his preface. Could you assist me in obtaining a copy of the sonnet by Aretino, beginning

"Mentre il gran Strozzi– Arma virumque cano?"

Would the *Dramaturgie* of Lessing afford me any useful information? If you think it would, be so good as to beg of Harding to send me that, and any other work in my way that you might think I ought to have.

If my memory does not deceive me, there is some account of your fair friend Hroswitha* and

* A German nun, who flourished about the year 980, and wrote six comedies, "ad æmulationem Terentii," of which an edition was printed at Nuremberg, 1501.

her works, at the end of the last edition of Hayley's *Essay on old Maids*. Did you ever see a translation in blank verse of the *Inferno?* I think when I was a boy I saw one in Cadell's window; but my memory may deceive me, as I was then very young, giddy, and indifferent to the charms of the Italian muse. Ought I to get the Letters of Zeno and Mastelli? I hope what I have said in note (p. 75), of Mr. Stockdale's translation of the *Aminta* will not hurt him. I should indeed be extremely sorry to wound the feelings of a man whose talents I so highly respect, and from the effusions of whose muse I have derived so much pleasure. I am, however, determined to omit the note in a future edition.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Feb. 18th, 1799.

Davies has this moment left me. He has returned my manuscript; and his ultimate proposal is, to pay down 600*l.*, and, in case a certain number of copies should be sold, (I think he says twelve hundred and fifty,) to complete the thousand. This, as you will imagine, does not at all meet my ideas; and I have neither consented, nor offered any counter-plan. He is to hear further from me on Wednesday at one p. m., in which time I should like to have your opinion.

I thank you for the research you have made

relative to Siwa. There are some strong circumstances that would induce me to think Ammon could be no other than Siwa.* Yet I well remember the name of Syropum before Major Rennell had adduced it; and he cannot surely have imagined that name. Can it be found in Ptolemy ?† Siwa is certainly the same distance from Kahira, as Pliny describes Ammon to be from Memphis. The caravans are commonly twelve days in travelling thither; and your relative positions of Cyrene, the Temple, and Memphis, very nearly accord with my observations. D'Anville's Ammon could not be within twelve days even of Bahnesé, in a direct line, and Bahnesé is far to the south of Kahira.

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* In his *Geography of Herodotus*, published the year after this letter was written, Major Rennell speaks of Mr. Browne, as connected with this subject, in terms of high encomium. "The discovery of the temple itself, (he says, p. 603) and the circumstances belonging to the Oasis which contains it, together with the operation of fixing its geographical position, to a degree of exactness sufficiently critical to admit of comparison with the ancient description, could not, perhaps, have been accomplished otherwise than by the zeal, perseverance, and skill of an European. Mr. Browne, therefore, is entitled to great praise for his spirit of enterprise, which bade defiance to the hardships and dangers consequent on an undertaking similar to that which has been so much celebrated in the history of the Macedonian conqueror, and which was unquestionably performed with much more personal risk, on the part of our countryman, than on that of Alexander."

† Major Rennell answers this question.—"In Ptolemy (Africa, Tab. III.) we find *Siropum*, answering to Karetum, el-Sogheir, in its relative position to Ammon, the Fons Solis, and the lesser Oasis."—*Geography of Herodotus*, p. 584.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Feb. 25th, 1799.

I consider the agreement between Davies and myself as in a great degree concluded. There was one point on which I was doubtful: he proposes that the first payment should be at publication: I wished it to take place on the book going to press; (the sum is 600*l.*:) the second payment (one half), at the end of six months. The number to be 1250. He consents that the contingency extend to two years.

I should like to have the two first letters reviewed by you before they go to the press, which Davies wishes to take place during the first seven days of the ensuing month. If I should not see you before, I will call the latter end of this week or on Sunday. He is to bring a copy of one of his former agreements, from which, altering what may be necessary, mine shall be drawn up.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

Feb. 26th, 1799.

Your favor of the 16th inst. reached my hermitage yesterday. I immediately sent Mr. Tassie's account to a friend in Dublin, who has kindly promised to exert himself in the service of the ingenious artist. He will call on Mr. Quin,

and take such steps as he may direct. And, if my personal services should be necessary, they shall not be wanting. Quin is an old literary acquaintance.

I am happy to find that Mr. Browne's work is in the press: it will be inestimable: his discoveries will immortalise him. If he should make any use of the anecdote which I communicated to you, beg of him to suppress Lord Charlemont's name, and only say "an accomplished Irish nobleman." I think it necessary to observe this delicacy, as his lordship only communicated the anecdote to me in a conversation on the subject of *Gaudentio di Lucca,* a work of which he is an enthusiastic admirer.

Through the politeness of Mr. Stevens, I have learned the name of Lopez de Vega's drama on the story of Romeo and Juliet,—*Castelvini and Monteses.* But neither Sir Richard Clayton, nor my friend Mr. Hayley, can afford me any information in regard to the *Fiorenza** of Lorenzino de' Medici.

The French (prose) translation of the Inferno I possess, and have read with pleasure. An edition of Dante, with a selection of notes from Landino and Vellutello, would be a pleasant thing. I, with a degree of patience which ought to atone

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* In his subsequent work, *on the Revival of the Drama in Italy,* Mr. Walker devotes an article, No. XII, of the Appendix, to his conjectures respecting this play, of which he states that he had failed to procure a copy, nor had he ever found any satisfactory information about it.

for all my sins, waded through the respective commentaries of those two gentlemen.

If my friend, Boyd, was encouraged, he would complete the translation, so happily begun, of the *Commedia*. I am sure you will be pleased to hear that our friend, Bishop Percy, has taken poor Boyd by the hand, and already presented him to a living of 130*l*. a year.

Setting due value on Harding's time, I sent him several lists of the books which I want, with a request that he would have one left with each importer of foreign books; but as yet with little success. I have not been able even to obtain such common books as the *octavo* editions of Hurd's Horace, or the poetical works of Hayley and Mason. However, I am inclined to think that Harding, with the assistance of our friend, Ouseley, is now exerting himself to meet my wishes. Indeed, if Harding sets any value on my labors, he should attend to my directions, for it is for him I am working. To Ouseley, one of my earliest friends, I have a thousand obligations. He has, on all occasions, been indefatigable in my service.

In consequence of your hint, I am now employed on an *Essay on the Revival of the Dramatic Art in Italy*.* It will extend from the earliest period to the time of Trissino. I shall spare no pains to render this little work at least satisfactory. I am almost daily adding something to

* In 1805 Mr. Walker published his *Historical and Critical Essay on the Revival of the Drama in Italy*, Edinburgh, 8vo.

my *Memoir on Italian Tragedy*, and am now and then receiving liberal communications from my friends.

Allow me, dear Sir, to flatter myself with the hope that you are engaged in some new and important undertaking. Talents like yours should not be unemployed.

MR. PYE* TO MR. PINKERTON.

James' Street, Buckingham Gate,
March 7th, 1799.

I beg you will accept my thanks for your communication about Forteviot to Mr. Lodge; for it was for me he had the goodness to make the inquiry. I am at present engaged in writing a poem on the subject of Alfred, and am very desirous of every kind of information relative to Scotland at that period, and especially as to the assistance he received from Gregory the Great and his successor Donald. I shall immediately peruse your work; but, if you should happen to have any other unpublished materials that relate

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* H. J. Pye, Esq. Poet Laureat, died 1813. The poem of Alfred, alluded to in this letter, was published in 1801 in 4to. Forteviot is the place where Kenneth II. is said to have had a palace and died. Pinkerton, in his *Inquiry into the Early History of Scotland*, II. p. 177. states it to be "near the river Ern, south of Perth, and formerly the chief residence of the Pictish kings, after their recovery of Lothian in 684."

to that time, I shall esteem myself greatly obliged to you if you would furnish me with them. With many apologies for intruding on your time, which is always so profitably employed in the service of literature, I have the honor to be, &c.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

April 14th, 1799.

From a polite billet which I lately received from Mr. Tassie, I learn that my hasty *scrawl* concerning that gentleman's affairs reached you. If he should think that I might be of any farther service to him on the present or any other occasion, I hope he will not hesitate to command me. As an ingenious artist and your friend, I should always most gladly embrace any opportunity of serving him.

In the remarks on your poems, which I had the presumption to send you, I believe I objected to the word "amiable." I find, however, you had Thomson's authority to support you; and therefore I conclude my ear led me astray:

"Where meeken'd sense, and *amiable* grace—"
Spr. l. 942.

You see, my dear Sir, how ill qualified I am to play the critic! *

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* Mr. Walker's remark was, "I wish some other epithet were substituted for *amiable* in the first line of your little poem, p. 149. It is almost impossible, by any combination of words,

I am much flattered by the reception my *Memoir* has met with. The reviewers, however, have not taken it up yet. They, I presume, are preparing a rod for me. Amongst other *kind* things, they will probably tell me, what I already know, that the work is very imperfect, and that a wild Irishman should not pretend to talk about Italian tragedy; but should confine himself to the *Irish cry*, &c. &c. But, if the work should ever reach another edition, I flatter myself I shall be able to render it less imperfect. From Mr. Hayley, Mr. Roscoe, Dr. Burney, yourself, and other friends, I have already got some very curious and interesting new matter; and I am not without hopes of obtaining more: besides, I am still improving my acquaintance with the Italian poets. Dr. Burney, who has obligingly sent me some valuable strictures on my work, takes, as you do, the part of poor Haym,* and has favored me with some curious notices concerning him and his works.

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to render the word *amiable* musical in poetry."—I suspect that, whatever deference may be paid to Thomson's authority, most readers will continue to be of Mr. Walker's opinion.

* What Mr. Walker has said of Haym is as follows: "Tempted, probably, by the success of Maffei's *Merope*, Nicola Francisco Haym, a Roman, who resided in London during the reigns of Queen Anne and Geo. I., published a tragedy upon the same subject. Haym was also author of another tragedy, (*la Demodice*,) of an unsuccessful attempt at a History of Music on a good plan, and a *Biblioteca Italiana*, which has been unmercifully pillaged by Barretti. But, as the dramas of this author have eluded my inquiries, and as he seems to be remembered rather as a musician than as a poet, I shall not disturb his repose." *Historical Memoir*, p. 242.

I did not, as you may perceive, take any notice of L. Martelli, who is enumerated by Quadrio as the fourth who opened the way to tragic composition in Italy. This did not proceed from inadvertency or disrespect; for I honor the memory of Signor Martelli; but I could not, nor have I yet been able to obtain a copy of his *Tullia*. If you should happen to have this celebrated drama in your collection, have the goodness to favor me with a slight analysis of it, and also with a specimen, such as you think I ought to give. Have you seen the *Sofonisba* of Galeotto del Caretto? As I am now fitting up my library, I am anxious for the books which I am expecting: besides, I wish to collect all my materials about me before I totally devote myself to a work which I am meditating. Except the *Storia della Letteratura Italiana*, there is nothing I want more than *La Vita del Marini* and *La Vita del Testi;* but more particularly the latter. Have you seen the Tragedies of Signor Polidori, lately published in London? I am daily expecting a copy. This gentleman was, I believe, secretary to Count Alfieri.

MR. MALCOLM LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

April 29th, 1799.

If you do not want the Marquis of Argyle's portrait immediately for the next number of your Portraits, I would propose to delay it till mid-

summer, when I can procure at the same time whatever else you want to have copied at Newbottle. About the middle of next month I go to Harrowgate with Mr. Meason: on my return I shall reside at Mordun, near Newbottle, and can more easily than at this distance examine the pictures. But, if you need the picture for engraving, it shall be immediately procured. I have found a drawing of one *Love*, a physician at Glasgow, (mentioned in the European Magazine,) which was sent with an account of his life to a bookseller, to be transmitted to you, and has lain in his shop for some time. It shall be sent as soon as possible.

I have considered your proposal of continuing the portraits. There is no sale nor bookseller to be found here for such a work. Many valuable portraits might be obtained, were I to carry a painter with me on a tour next summer to some of our noblemen's seats. The expense of this might be easily computed; but I have no idea of the expense of engraving, or of the sale necessary to defray the cost of such a work. I shall inquire at the College Library for Craig's Principia, the only place where it has a chance to be found.

There is little chance of obtaining a drawing of the subterraneous caves, as no artists live near the places. I apprehend that they are the same with the *Pights'* houses in Orkney.* These are mostly under green hillocks, and, if sometimes intended for concealment, seem to me to have

* See Vol. I. p. 231.

been often used as cellars, or subterraneous apartments under the conical *duns*, of which a few remain half entire in Shetland. They are demolished in Orkney; but I have observed the foundations of the circular wall around such hillocks. Unless in one instance, the cave was never above three feet high, which has persuaded the people that the *pights* were pigmies. It is narrow, square, or circular. You may conceive its size from this; that the roof consists of two or three large stones or slates, of a considerable thickness, supported at the ends by the side wall built up of uncemented stones, of a height to sit in, or creep through, sometimes from one apartment to the other. The green hillock which generally covers them seems to have precluded concealment, unless it had been formed by the destruction of the house on the surface, beneath which the cave was dug. At the same time, their remote situation frequently indicates that the caves, as Tacitus asserts, were for concealment.*

Such numerous detections of Ossian have occurred, that the note has already swelled to a Dis-

* Mr. Laing appears here to have had in his mind the following passage in the treatise *De Moribus Germanorum*. "Solent et subterraneos specus aperire, eosque multo insuper fimo onerant, suffugium hiemi et receptaculum frugibus; quia rigorem frigorum iisdem locis molliunt; et, si quando hostis advenit, aperta populatur; abdita autem et defossa aut ignorantur, aut eo ipso fallunt, quòd quærenda sunt."

sertation.* With your assistance, I am confident of rendering the detection complete. As the historical detections are derived from your Introduction, to which we are all indebted, I may transmit them next month, when finished, for your remarks. In your Introduction, Vol. II. p. 83, you observe that Moylena is in King's county, Temora in Meath, which destroys the whole poem. In the *Collectanea Hibernica*, Moylena, Cromla, Tura, Lubar, are placed between Loch Swilly and Loch Foyll in Ulster, Vol. III. p. 322, on the authority of O'Conor's Dissertations. This last book I can neither procure here nor in London; but, as the first edition was published before Fingal, (*Campbell's Strictures*, 9.) I suspect much that it supplied M'Pherson with the whole topography of his two Epic poems. If you have the book, I shall beg a few lines in explanation of this fact, particularly whether Moylena is in King's county or Ulster. That Temora was Tura in East Meath, can admit of no doubt.

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* This Dissertation in Mr. Laing's History occupies more than ninety pages; and he afterwards followed it up by a splendid edition of the Poems of Ossian, in 2 vols. 8vo. in 1805, with notes and illustrations, designed to prove that the text was spurious. In the same year the Highland Society printed the Report of their Committee appointed to inquire into the nature and authenticity of the poems of Ossian, with an object diametrically opposite to Mr. Laing's; but there are few so hardy defenders of the old bard as not to allow that the advantage was on the side of Mr. Laing, whose learning, industry, and acuteness, are singularly conspicuous in this publication.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. LAING.

Hampstead, May 5th, 1799.

I have closed my volume of Portraits, so there is no hurry; and when you return to Mordun will be time enough.

I have in the press a short list of those most wanted, which I shall send to you at Harrowgate. Is there any particular direction? Your idea of a little tour with an artist pleases me much. The engravings will cost six guineas, one with another; but, if you would undertake such a work, I should wish you to send a letter, for me to show to some London publisher. I think, if he clear all expenses and pay you one hundred guineas for fifty short lines, it would be fair.* If I could get two hundred for you, so much the better. The mere engraving would occupy two years: so you need not fear its interfering with your present publication.

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* In more than one of his letters to Lord Buchan, Mr. Pinkerton has stated that he derived no profit whatever from the work on Scotish Portraits; but the following agreement, which is preserved in his correspondence, shows that he was not altogether disinterested in this respect:—

"London, Nov. 22, 1796.

"I agree to give my note at twelve months to Mr. John Pinkerton, of one hundred pounds, for the drawings, and writing the lives to the same to the first volume, to be called the 'Scotch Gallery of Portraits,' mostly by Jameson; and, if 500 copies of the said work should be disposed of in the space of four years from the time of the publication, I then agree to give Mr. Pinkerton a further sum of fifty pounds. E. HARDING."

In all events, my dear friend, let me excite you to this tour. If you would not on your own account, I should be certain of finding a purchaser here for the drawings, and, rather than you should lose a fraction, I would purchase them myself.

I am obliged to you for your curious information about the caves. Those mentioned in the Statistic Account are chiefly in Angus.

I have not O'Conor at hand, but shall look into him by and by. The only edition, I believe, is that of Dublin, 1766. When I placed Moylena in King's county I had surely good authority; but I cannot now recollect it. Perhaps it was Archdale's *Monasticon Hibernicum.* Beaumont's large map or memoir will, I suppose, show at once. I shall write to my ingenious correspondent, Mr. Walker of Dublin, about it. If you have any other questions concerning Ireland, I can remit them to him.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

"May 6th, 1799.

I am favored with yours of 29th ult. You inquire how Mr. Roscoe is employed. From a very flattering letter on the subject of my Memoirs, which I had lately the honor to receive from him, it appears that he is now employed on the age of Leo X.,* a glorious period, and a subject to which

* Mr. Roscoe's *Life and Pontificate of Leo X.* was published in 1805.

he is highly qualified to do justice.• I wish he were in possession of the materials which your departed friend, Gibbon, had collected for his intended history of the republic of Florence. The *Nurse** may prove useful, and ought in my opinion to lie on the toilet of every lady who is, or may be, a mother; but, as I am no *mother*, I would rather that Roscoe had translated the *Podere* of Tansillo.† I am happy to find that you mean to take up your play again. I am impatient for its appearance.

May I flatter myself that you are meditating, or engaged in, some great historical work? We can-

* In 1798 Mr. Roscoe published the *Nurse*, a poem translated from the Italian of Luigi Tansillo in 4to. It has since reached a second edition, and deservedly so: like every thing else which has proceeded from the pen of this great and good man, its uniform object is to improve mankind, by rendering them more virtuous, and consequently more happy.

† Respecting Tansillo see the *Giornale dei Letterati d' Italia*, xi. pp. 133 and 148. His poems entitled the *Balia* and the *Podere* were written early in life. In his youth he had incurred the displeasure of the Papal See by the publication of a licentious poem, which, under the name of *Il Vendemmiatore*, contained the common topics of abuse and indecency with which the Neapolitans engaged in the vintage are at that time in the habit of attacking each other and the public.

" —— durus
Vindemiator et invictus, cui sæpe viator
Cessisset, magnâ compellans voce cuculum."

This work of Tansillo's was included in the list of prohibited books. He afterwards made his peace with the pontiff by the publication of a work of a very opposite character, called *Le Lagrime di San Pietro;* and it is but justice to him to say, that none of his subsequent writings bore any mark of the profligacy of the first.

not afford to allow you to be subject "to fits of indolence."

Certainly Harding has no right to complain of my "spurring him rather too much." I made a foolish bargain with him; such a bargain as I will never make again. My Memoir was, in its original state, a slight essay, which, when printed, would not have exceeded in size the first section of the present work. For this Harding was to have given me twenty-five guineas worth of books, and forty copies, or the value in books; but, as he wished to publish a guinea quarto, I was requested to new-model and enlarge the work, and at the same time promised a handsome compensation for the additional trouble. Having met his wish, I naturally concluded that he would not have hesitated to meet my expectation. However, as yet, I have not got (according to my computation,) above twenty guineas worth of books; nor have I demanded twenty copies for myself and friends. I therefore thought that, in the course of three or four months after publication, I might demand, or rather request, a few guineas worth of books on further account. Tiraboschi's *Storia della Letteratura Italiana* might be got for four or five guineas; and the other books which I immediately want would not cost six more. I am sure, then, you will allow, dear Sir, that I was not unreasonable in my demand. Had I sold the manuscript in the usual way, I would have got the money before the work was sent to press. On the value of the copyright I shall not pretend to decide; but, if Mr. Roscoe got 1300*l.* for his *Lorenzo de' Medici*, I think

I am entitled to something more than a few Italian books. Pardon my *boring* you on this subject; but your extreme kindness on every occasion emboldens me.

The work which I am contemplating, and for which I have collected some valuable materials, is a kind of literary history of certain Italian states during an interesting period of fifty years, from (about) 1600 to 1650. The Memoir of Petrarch by the Abbé de Sade will be my model, and Fulvio Testi my hero. But I cannot proceed till I get Tiraboschi's Life of Testi; and as yet I have not been able even to borrow a copy. This book appears on the several lists with which I have taken the liberty to trouble you and other literary friends. Perhaps Payne may have that and the other Italian books which I want? I have not seen his catalogue.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

St. Valeri, June 1st, 1799.

In a rummage the other day, I found among my manuscipts *A Voyage to Ireland from Iceland in the Tenth Century*. If this voyage has not been printed, I shall embrace the earliest opportunity of sending you my copy, accompanied with a narrative, which will serve to give you some idea of the horrors of our late rebellion. Allow me now to acknowledge the receipt of the Adventures of

Faravla, Princess of Scotland, which was forwarded in Harding's last parcel, above (I am almost ashamed to say) twelve months ago. For the other (manuscript) romance I have no immediate occasion; so do not return it till it shall perfectly suit your convenience to do so.

I was much gratified by the very liberal critique on my Memoir, which appeared in the *British Critic* for April, and shall gladly avail myself of the hints suggested, and cheerfully correct the errors pointed out by the reviewer. *Role*, though sometimes used, is not strictly English, and shall therefore be altered; but I fear that I shall not be able to find in English an equivalent of equal conciseness for *Scenes à Machine*. I think, with the reviewer, that all the important quotations should have been translated; and I now regret that I did not do what might have been so easily done.

I have sketched out an Essay on the revival of the Drama in Italy, which (if I should finish it to my mind) I shall probably publish about September or October next. To this I have some idea of subjoining (by way of preparation for a second edition) additions and corrections to my Memoir, with versions of all the untranslated specimens, some of which my friend, Boyd, has promised to undertake. Favor me with your opinion on this plan.

A friend who has me constantly in mind, lately purchased for me, at a sale in London, some very scarce old Italian dramas, with which I hope my

collection will soon be enriched. In addition to the books, of which I took the liberty to send you a list, could you, dear Sir, put me in the way of getting *Rime Sacre con Osservazioni di Cionacci*, 1680? I believe I already mentioned to you my anxious desire to obtain copies of the Orfeo of Politiano, the Sofonisba of Caretto, and the Tullia of Martelli.

I lately heard that you are engaged in some undertaking of a literary nature, but of the exact nature I am ignorant, with your ingenious friend Mr. Tassie. Can I be of any use to you here? If I can, I hope I need not say you may command me. As some weeks have elapsed since I heard from my friend, Hayley, I fear his son still continues dangerously ill. Have you sent him your tragedy? *

The Royal Irish Academy have just offered to give a gold medal to the author of the best Essay on the following subject. "What judgment should be formed of the literary merit and moral tendency of those pieces of German literature which have been lately translated into the English language; and to what probable causes should their peculiar style be attributed?" I hope this

* Many letters in this collection which I have not published refer to this tragedy, but none of them mention its name or subject; nor do I find that Mr. Pinkerton brought forward any dramatic piece about this time. In the early part of 1798 he had sent it to Mrs. Barbauld for her opinion and revisal; and she, in acknowledging the receipt of it, promises to "take it with her to Dorking, and share with Dr. Aikin the entertainment it will afford;" but there is nothing further from either of them on the subject.

interesting subject will be treated as it deserves. I am, I must confess, almost sick of the *stravaganza* of the German writers. If you ever read romances, I presume the name of Barthélemy has tempted you to read *Charité et Polydorus*. It was sent me last night.

I have just discovered the *Voyage to Iceland* in a publication of Thorkelin's, entitled *Fragments of English and Irish History*. I have not yet seen numbers three and four of the *Oriental Collections*. I hope they are equal to the former numbers.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Sotterley, near Becles, Suffolk,
June 23rd, 1799.

On my departure from the Adelphi, Friday, 14th, I proceeded leisurely to Chelmsford; the following night to Ipswich; and on Monday came to this place. My search for summer, however, is yet premature. The howling blasts of the north-east, reigning under a sunless sky, have almost shorn the trees of their blossoms, and parched the lively verdure of the fields. One has, in short, only to regret the crowd and smoke of the capital.

I availed myself of your permission to send you the remaining sheets of my book for correction, which, unless some peculiar fatality attends this publication, I suppose must now be completed. The day after I saw you, I showed Messrs. Cadell

and Davies the two drawings which I had caused to be copied, of the edifice found at Siwa. They, however, thought proper to decline having them engraved; alleging, that, as they could not be finished before publication, the effect would not be the same, if delivered afterwards. The maps are finished. One plan has long been executed; the other (*Kahira*) was not done when I left town. Whenever it shall be completed, if ever that happens, I told Davies to send me a proof; as it cannot be made ready for insertion till I shall have affixed the reference, &c. The *frontispiece*, I conclude, must be finished; but I should like to see a proof, together with the other. The *drawing*, which is with Neagle, No. 20, Chad's Row, Gray's-Inn-Lane Road, and which he promised to keep from injury, I shall be obliged to you, if you can come at it without trouble, to keep for me till my return, or some way to provide for its security.

A report has been spread in town that the publishers mean to make a three-guinea book, and to divide it into two volumes. I can hardly give them credit for so much absurdity, which appears almost incredible, when I call to mind all the circumstances attending the publication. But I rarely open my lips when my voice can compel no attention. If such a design there be, it will probably, as it ought, defeat itself. If there be not, I take it to be the invention of a friend, who has in other respects, as is said, been very industrious in various companies in reporting

much more than he knows, and considerably more than the truth. The people of Suffolk knew much better than myself what I was to receive for the copy. This courtier-like resentment made me smile for ten minutes after I heard it.

The fair sheets were sent me, as far as they were printed off: the remainder, I conclude, will be forwarded to you, so as to make that copy complete. I gave the publishers a list of the persons to whom I would have copies sent: in all five, besides myself

My *sortie* was attended with nothing disagreeable; and I hope to recommence my march on the last day of this, or the first of the following, month. Till that time a letter will find me here.

I shall write a line, if possible, to Messrs. Cadell and Davies, before I go from hence; but hope in the mean time to receive the plate or plates above mentioned. With regard to dispatch, if *they* be not able to conduct the business, I know not who can assist them; so that I hope you will have no task but that disagreeable one, which I have unavoidably been obliged to devolve on you, of correcting the sheets.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

June 24th, 1799.

I am favored with yours of 14th inst. I lament most sincerely poor Tassie.* In his death the elegant arts have suffered a great loss. Any step you may recommend in regard to the money due to him by Jones, I shall take with pleasure. He did not send the power of attorney to me; nor do I know to whom he sent it.

I this day saw in the possession of Valance, a bookseller here, a large collection of books which belonged to the late Rev. James Johnstone, editor and translator of several curious Northern tracts. If you are still an admirer of the literature of the North, I shall be happy in purchasing for you any books in that way in poor Johnstone's collection you may point out. The sooner you acquaint me with your wishes on this subject the better,

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* An interesting Memoir of the life of Mr. James Tassie was published in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, and has since been reprinted in *Nichols's Literary Anecdotes*, iii. p. 217. He was originally much connected with Dublin, where it was that he first learned the art of imitating precious stones in colored paste; an art which he afterwards carried to such perfection, as to be the source of a handsome fortune to himself and much honor and profit to the country. The Descriptive Catalogue of his collection of imitations of gems, arranged and described by Raspe, and illustrated with copper-plates, and with an Introduction on the origin of the art of engraving on hard stones, and on the progress of pastes, is a curious and useful publication, and an honorable record of his industry and talents.

lest some of the lovers of Northern literature in this city should get the start of us. I shall not disclose this literary secret to any of my friends here till I hear from you. I found Valance in the very act of unpacking the books.

I think with you that our inventions were getting tame and vapid. But the German inventions, in my opinion, bear a strong resemblance to the ravings of a man in a fever. The flights of Shakspeare, Milton, and Ariosto, are divine: they are the effusions of a fine frenzy. Ariosto was a miracle of genius. I almost adore him.

I picked up a curious book yesterday, Luigi Groto's* edition of the *Decameron*, Ven. 1590. (See *Memoir on Ital. Trag.* p. 64.) I got at the same time *Bicchierai's* dramas, one of which is a free version of Dodsley's *Cleone*.

I must confess that Boyd is sometimes too paraphrastical. His fancy is too luxuriant; but he is certainly *un vero poeta*. Now, as I am not a *vero poeta*, my versions are more literal, but not so pleasing to the mere English reader. I had it, however, in contemplation to execute all the versions in the manner of "*cease, relentless furies,*" &c. p. 252. As Boyd is not rich and has a large

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* Luigi Groto, who was employed by the Inquisition to purge the Decameron of its impurities, no needless task, died at Venice in 1585. From the circumstance of his having been deprived of sight, he is seldom mentioned without the addition of *Il cieco d'Adria* to his name. He was the author of several tragedies, and among others of *Hadriana*, from which Mr. Walker has given long extracts, on account of the many points of resemblance between it and Shakspeare's Romeo and Juliet.

family, I am endeavoring to get him a purchaser for a translation of the whole *Commedia*. He has almost got out of purgatory. A better creature does not exist.

I have made considerable progress in my Essay on the Revival of the Drama in Italy. But I must totally drop, or at least suspend, the other work which I formerly mentioned to you, since Harding has not procured for me *Le Vite del Testi et del Marino*.

I am entirely of your opinion that scarce Italian books do not abound in London. Yet a friend purchased for me at a sale the other day twenty scarce and curious old Italian (secular) dramas, and might have got at the same time a great number of sacred dramas; but he did not think I was collecting dramas of that kind. Now, it happens that the nature of my present undertaking renders sacred dramas (I mean the early ones) peculiarly acceptable to me; but, above all, I am desirous of procuring Cionacci's* collection, so often quoted by Roscoe and Burney.

Though the *Monthly* is rather severe, I am pleased on the whole with their critique. If they knew how very small a portion of vanity there is in my composition, they would not accuse me of making a *parade* of my friendships. I name those to whom I am indebted, because I never conceal obligations; and the epithets which I bestow on them are, in my opinion, merited.

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* Cionacci was the editor of the sacred poems of Lorenzo and of others of the Medici family.

I am sure I do not say as many handsome things of my friends, as Hayley does of his in the *Life of Milton.* The Monthly also accuses me of writing "imparted from the press." I certainly wrote in more than one instance, "the press imparted," and "imparted by the press;" but I was never guilty of such nonsense as imparted *from*, though it may be so printed without being noticed in the Errata. There are several other errors not noticed in the Errata, as *hoary usage* for *hoary use; hollow shade* for *hallowed wave*, &c. But the reviewer is wrong in saying that I refer the origin of the Opera to Testi's Alcina, I only say, "this rage for music, thus favored by Testi, gave birth to the opera" (p. 180.) Justice ought to be done in the next review.

Who is Mr. Damiani, who gives an account of the present state of literature in Italy, in the Monthly Magazine for August, 1797?

A Miss Hay, who is employed on a biographical account of the celebrated of her own sex of all ages and countries, calls on the public for aid. I shall rummage among my books, and, if I should find any thing for her purpose, I shall send it to her printer's. It is incumbent on a lover of letters to promote every literary undertaking to the utmost of his ability.

SIR JOSEPH BANKS TO MR. PINKERTON.

Soho Square, June 26th, 1799.

Confident that the only sentiments I have ever expressed concerning Mr. Browne are those which I feel; a respect for his talents as a writer, which I am acquainted with by having read several of his letters; an unbounded confidence both in his judgment as an observer, and his veracity as a narrator, and a full sense of the value of the sacrifice he has made in the pursuit of useful knowledge, I hold it impossible that any one can have quoted me for any thing which implies the slightest degree of censure on him or on his pursuits; I conclude, therefore, that you have been misinformed on that head.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Sotterley, June 28th, 1799.

Having been from home yesterday during the day, and returning near midnight, I found your favor of the 26th. This will be my excuse for not having replied immediately on the subject of the map. The green line was agreed on between Arrowsmith and myself, in lieu of a double line, to denote my own route. It should be traced in Dar Fûr only from Cobbé to Tendelti, and thence to Gidîd, a town somewhat to the east of the road from Cobbé to *Ril*. If you judge it proper,

it may also be traced from Kahira to Assûan, and thence returning to Ghenné, thence to Cosseir, &c. From Kahira straight to Feiume, thence to the Nile, and down the west bank to Kahira; from ditto to Suez, Tôr, and Mount Sinai, and back to Kahira. The route through Egypt, however, it seems to me superfluous to mark with color.

I am happy to hear that the business is drawing near a conclusion, but, at the same time, much concerned that you should have been so harassed by it; and the more, as it seems that my negligence has been the chief cause of this inconvenience.

I conceive it will be more prudent entirely to relinquish the *Plan of Kahira*;* as with all these impediments, it is impossible but great errors must have place. I am displeased at having been even involuntarily the author of any irregularity at the Museum. Lowry, while I had the book in chambers, had employed five hours in copying the plan, a time abundantly sufficient. I ordered him not to undertake it, if it could not certainly be finished by the 4th June. He sent his assistant to look

* Messrs. Cadell and Davies, in a note to Mr. Pinkerton dated two days before this letter, had requested that some passages in the Appendix to Mr. Browne's Travels, referring to this plan, might be expunged; for that they had no hopes of getting it in time from Mr. Lowry. By the omission of this plan the loss to the public was not so great as may possibly be imagined. Mr. Browne's intention was to have given that of Niebuhr, as he informs Mr. Pinkerton in a note which I have not printed; all the materials which he had himself collected for the purpose during his residence in the city having perished.

at the plate, when the book was no longer with me. I took him to the reading-room, and gave him a leisurely view of it; and he then refreshed his copy, which was already complete on transparent paper, and, as he said, almost finished on the copper. I conceived the business terminated, or should have stopped him from that moment.

I carried the correction of the cancelled leaf to the printer, and left it with him a long time before I quitted London. Since "my brevity has led to obscurity," I shall take proper care in future to avoid all abbreviations. I ought to have been warned sooner; but habit is not always corrected by reflection.

I shall leave this place on Monday, and proceed to York, where any thing left at the post-office will find me till 6th July. After that time, as before directed. I am sorry the frontispiece is extended to too great a size. I gave the dimensions, but forget what they were. Should it not be folded in the middle?

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Tallanture, July 19th, 1799.

The moment after my arrival at York, which happened not till the 12th of this month, having hastened to the post-office, I was much gratified by finding yours of June 30th. My coming here has been delayed longer than I expected by some

days; but you know, in this wandering kind of life, it is not possible to fix one's stay with certainty.

I regret having been forced to leave town at the time I did. All the defects that you mention might have been remedied without difficulty but for that event. Add to which, I have left you a vexatious task. It is, however, now no time for apology or self-accusation.

Lentils do not grow naturally in Dar-fûr; nor do the people use them for food. I think I have seen a few in the garden of an Egyptian residing there, which perhaps occasioned the blunder. Both sentences ought to have been omitted. The map of Dar-fûr always seemed to me bare; but I had not invention enough to suggest a remedy. *Ril* and *Cubcabia* are large places, or, as we should say, cities. *El Father* means simply the royal residence, and applies equally to *Heg-lig*, *Tini*, *Tendelti*. They are all inconsiderable villages. The latter is marked: the two former ought to have been. The prefatory paper that I had written to accompany Niebuhr's plan, I have with me, and intended to send it as soon as a proof was brought me; but, on hearing the plan could not appear, I forbore. It would, I conceive, have been improper to introduce it without the plan. The passage relative to the Egyptian peasants, I rather believe, was incorporated with the account of Egypt and state of the peasantry; but that I shall discover on examination.

I have just received a letter from Major Rennell,

in which he seems more than ever to come into the idea that Siwa is the real temple of Ammon; which is some consolation, though I remain myself undecided. My journey has been tolerably pleasant, considering it was performed alone; but ever since I came here it has been, as usual, a deluge. I shall hardly be able to leave this country till the middle of next month; nor shall I stay longer, unless from something unavoidable. It would be in vain to send for a copy to correct, with a view to a second edition; which, if necessary, however, I shall prepare for as soon as I can return to London.

The depopulation of Europe, and all the other grand objects of European statesmen, succeed to a miracle. How unfortunate that some more compendious method has not yet offered itself! If the man who presented proposals to some prince for preparing a drug that was to kill by its effluvia, were now alive, he would be pensioned with a million per annum at least! The snow is not yet entirely dissolved on parts of Skiddaw and Scroffel; but in other respects the season has been more favorable here than in the south.

THE EARL OF BUCHAN TO MR. PINKERTON.

Dryburgh Abbey, July 19th, 1799.

I have yours of the 6th instant, with the list of portraits.

Sir W. Bruce: I desired Mr. Beugo, engraver

at Edinburgh, some years ago, to make a drawing from the original, in Mrs. Bruce of Arnot's possession, which he did; and, as I suppose he does not mean to engrave it, I am persuaded Mrs. Bruce of Arnot, on being applied to, would purchase it from Beugo, and send it up to Mr. Harding or to yourself.

George Heriot: a full length in the hospital, has been engraved in Mezzotinto; and I do not believe the print to be very rare. I have the old family original in my possession, and that of his father. Being quite retired here, and having little acquaintance with the present race of young artists at Edinburgh, I think it would be best for you to cause your agent there to look out for one to undertake all those there and in the neighborhood that will fall to be paid for.

I made a tracing of the president Gilmour, and sent it up; but I suppose it is among those that have miscarried. Mr. Little Gilmour, of Craig-millar, would, I am persuaded, on being addressed by you, or by Mr. Harding, send a finished drawing for the work at his own charge, being a person in very competent circumstances to do so, and fond of his family descent from that eminent pleader and judge.* I am no less confident that Lord Ancram would do the same respecting the portraits at Newbottle Abbey; and, in all cases where I do not indicate otherwise, you are at

* It appears by a letter from Mr. Gilmour to Lord Buchan in this collection, that he could not ascertain that there really is a portrait of the President at Craig-millar.

perfect liberty, in making the application, to mention its being done by my suggestion.

Lord Lauderdale, I am sure, will be happy to give you a drawing of the Chancellor Thirlestane. I have searched in vain for the portrait of Sir R. Sibbald, which was formerly at Dunterlie in West Lothian. Mr. Beaton, of Balfour in Fife, is possessed of a fine, and probably the only authentic original of Cardinal Beaton; and he told me, some years since, in the play-house at Edinburgh, that, if you applied to him, he would send you a drawing.

I have no doubt of the Lord Advocate of Scotland giving you drawings of the Borthwick Monuments, in the vault at Borthwick.

I have written to Jarviswood for drawings of Robert Baillie, and Sir R. Moray.

Sir James Stuart Denham, Bart. M. P. will, I am persuaded, procure a drawing of Lockhart of Lee, from the fine original at Lee.

With respect to Napier, I never had an original, but a very fine drawing by Brown, which, with a head of Copernicus in a writing-box, I gave to the American Philosophical Society at Philadelphia, on being elected a member, on the motion of General Washington. Mr. Napier of Blackstone, in Stirlingshire, has the finest original of that extraordinary man, to which your agent can easily obtain access, by the use of my name.

There is a print by White of commissioner Melvil, of which I have seen many copies; and one is in my Peerage of Scotland. *I procured the plate* for the present Earl of Leven and Melvil,

who, as well as Lord Balgonie, is always ready, as you formerly experienced in the miniature of the general.

There is a fine print of the Earl of Argyle, who was beheaded, by Vanderbanck, of which I have a copy, bought at Granger's sale: the print is rare; and, if you can get no other, I shall send it up to Mr. Harding. Professor Ogilvie formerly sent up A. Cant from King's College, Aberdeen, at my request; but another may be got if wished for. Perhaps we might do as well without Cant.

If you have not already got John Keill and David Gregory from the picture gallery at Oxford, I should think it very desirable not to omit these two eminent men, which would enable you to reject others less important.

May I ask of you to assure Mr. Andrew Stuart of my kind remembrance? 'Tis pity you could not have got drawings from the pictures at the castle of Aubigny, by means of M. de Perigord, who was so good before the war as to cause search in all the palaces in France for the Highland-dressed original of Mary Queen of Scots, mentioned by Brantome, after which I inquired.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Tallanture, July 30th, 1799.

I am this moment returned from Carlisle, where, for the last four or five days, I have been detained; and let this be my excuse for not

replying sooner to your letters of 19th and 21st. I am much indebted to your attention, in giving me the earliest intelligence of the fortune of my book; concerning which, as you know, I had many doubts, and which, if procrastination could condemn, I began to think lost beyond redemption. Your advice throughout has been proved by the sequel perfectly well founded; and your friendship in the whole of the business has rendered most material service. It is not at all improbable that, if not some way stimulated, I might have thrown away so much time in alterations, corrections, and researches, as to suffer public curiosity to die away.

I have just received a copy from Messrs. Cadell and Davies, and had some days before written to them respecting the first payment, &c. I do not dislike the appearance of the book, but as to any thing else cannot yet speak. The meretricious adjunct of hot-pressing might have been spared; but the will of the public be done, *qui préfère quelquefois une femme faidée, à une fille fraîche et sans art.* I understand people have objected to the price; but it seems to me not with much reason, when Park's sells for the same.

I found the journey from Suffolk hither not wholly disagreeable, notwithstanding the unfavorableness of the season; having escaped with only one wetting of five hours, half snow half rain, in coming over Stainmoor in Westmoreland. In some parts of the mountains the snow was lying on the 13th of this month; but, as we have had a deluge of rain since, I suppose it will now have

disappeared. I am already satiated with the country, and do not intend to stay above a fortnight longer. Society, in other places insipid, is here rather more so than usual: queries that administer little to the amusement or information of the inquirer, and not at all to those of the respondent, have lately wearied me. Party spirit, in other places disgusting, is here carried to a ridiculous length. Some amuse themselves with creeping between the legs of the Northern Colossus, others with barking at him at a distance without ability to bite. On the one side there is no independence; on the other neither union, energy, spirit, or common sense.

Wherever I have been in my route, the majority seems inclined to limit its martial zeal to the coërcion of the French within their own territory. Yet it may be doubted whether the people will not submit, even though affairs should be carried to a much greater length.

Your notices from *Leo Africanus* are important; and I think he seems to be more correct than might be expected in his relative geographical positions. Did he visit Gaoga? I suppose not. In looking over an old map, which I met with in a convent in Syria, the *kingdom of Gaoga* and the kingdom of *Gorhân* I found laid down. They were there placed, Gaoga from lat. 16° to 20° N., and Gorhan immediately S. of it as low as 10°. Probably both the names are taken from Leo. It then struck me, as now it has done you, that Gaoga might be *Dageon;* and I recognise the other name in the Korhâni Arabs, who now form wandering tribes,

and have no monarch or fixed territory of their own. At the same time, Gaoga is probably the Kauga of Edrîsi, as you will see in Hartman; and, if so, by him placed much too far north, and, if I well remember, as commencing immediately south of Beris. I can hardly think Gaoga and Dageon the same word, as the radicals differ materially; nor is there any affix that could effect the change. But it may not be an Arabic word; and, in that case, the Arabs in using it would differ in their orthography. The other coincidences of history, &c. are strong.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Moredon, August 5th, 1799.

I have at last had an opportunity to examine most of the pictures at Newbottle, and shall subjoin the principal Scotish portraits from a catalogue kept at the house.* A delay of a fortnight is still

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* Marquis of Argyle.

Robert, Earl of Lothian, son of Mark, Lord Newbottle.

Three portraits of the first Earl of Ancram and Lothian, of different ages.

Ker, Earl of Somerset.

Robert, first Earl of Ancram, ætat. 72.

James VI., whole length by Jameson, fine.

Darnley, three-fourths length, a copy by Jameson.

Charles I. when Prince of Wales, in gold armour, by Jameson, whole length.

Countess of Argyle, ætat. 25, 1599.

necessary to obtain Lady Ancram's consent from Ireland, to copy the portraits which you want. There is no Robert III.; and I suspect that Robert II., from the other kings that accompany him, though ascribed to Jameson, has been taken from the gallery of Holyrood House. Indeed I would not vouch for others ascribed to Jameson; as I do not understand how he drew James VI. or Charles, the Prince of Wales, unless perhaps they are copies. The Marquis of Argyle and Lord Douglas are remarkable portraits. The three James's and others in a bed-chamber I have not yet seen. Such as you want, in addition to the Marquis of Argyle and the Earl his father, and Robert II. if genuine,

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Marchioness of Argyle.
First Marquis of Lothian in armour, supposed by Jameson.
Lord Douglas, wounded at Otterburn, by Fleccus, 1547.
Mary, Countess of Hume, daughter of Lord Dudley.
Robert Ker, first Marquis of Lothian.
William, second Marquis.
Colonel Lumsden (killed at Dundee).
Earl Robert Ker.
Archibald, Lord Lorn, ætat. 28, anno 1630, full length.
Earl of Argyle, the Marquis' father, full length by Jameson.
Old Woman, supposed the Countess of Desmond.
First Earl of Haddington.
Three of the James's: one (James IV. I suppose) with his crown, by Holbein.
Mark Ker, last Abbot of Newbottle, by Sir Antonio More.
Regent Morton.
Lord Douglas, father of the black Douglas (the same, I believe, with the one above).
Lord Ruthven, Earl of Dunfermline.
Sir James Stewart.
D. Beaton, Archbishop of St. Andrew's.

shall be copied as soon as Lady Ancram's permission is obtained. Two of the other pictures were copied at her expense by Nixon for the Scotish Portraits (at four guineas each); but I suspect that they were sent to Herbert, and that you never received them. A short letter of acknowledgment to her ladyship explaining the fact, would be highly acceptable, as I apprehend. From the observations I have often met with in applying for family papers, and from the difficulty of procuring artists in remote parts of the country, I still hesitate to undertake a Number of the Portraits.

I shall send the detection of Ossian next week by the mail-coach. I shall send it first to you, to be transmitted to Mr. Strahan; if you will mention to whose care I shall direct it in London, that it may reach you at Hampstead.

As I am now in the press, I shall request an abstract by the mail-coach, or by post, of your idea of Gowrie's conspiracy, as soon as convenient. I intended at first to have copied the concluding part of your observations* on Anne

* These observations, which are remarkable, are as follows: "That she had no small share in the Gowrie conspiracy may, perhaps, be shown by the editor, in a short tract on that embroiled subject. At present he shall only hint that the main actor, Gowrie's brother, was a paramour of Anne; that she highly offended James by her continued favor to the forfeited family; that the Earl of Gowrie himself appears to have been entirely innocent, and that Anne's ambition might conspire, with her lover's infatuation, to imprison her husband, and rival Elizabeth in female sovereignty. Had the lover been a man of ability, and had not his mind been almost distracted with the weight of the enterprise, another example might have been

of Denmark, (as I have done her character,) from the Scotish Portraits, as a concise and energetic explanation of the whole conspiracy; but I apprehend that you could furnish such of the proofs with little trouble, as might be contained within the compass of a large note, to be annexed to the volume.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, Aug. 12th, 1799.

I am favored with yours of the 5th; and am much indebted to you for the trouble you are taking on my account.

James II. has been improved, and is different from that at Holyrood: it is therefore to be presumed that the others differ. Pray look at the set in Guthrie's History.

Jameson very often copied: so his James VI. &c. are nothing surprising. In all ages copies have been painted from old portraits.

I inclose a line of acknowledgment to Lady Ancram, which you can forward if you think proper.

Any parcel for me may be directed to so many places that I hardly know which to mention: Suppose "Robert Ingram, Esq., Billiter Square, London;" with a line, requesting him to transmit it as soon as possible.

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added to those in ancient and modern history, of imperious queens who have imprisoned or murdered their husbands."

I shall, the middle of this week, remit an abstract of my Gowrie's Conspiracy in a frank, which you are at entire liberty to alter or use as you think proper.

The above are in answer to some points in yours, which I take in the order they occur, that I may not forget any.

Now for the portraits: you would find this task easier than the inspection of family papers: three or four short letters would do the business, as to those in the vicinity of Edinburgh. When you think proper, Lord Buchan empowers me to use his name.

Mr. Bruce of Arnot offered his of his own accord. Beugo took a drawing of Sir W. Bruce. Mr. Beaton of Balfour, Fife, has a real Cardinal Beaton. He promised to send a drawing if applied to. (Lord Buchan says he has written.)

If you finally decline, I wish you would apply for me to some editor at Edinburgh to take the whole or half of an entirely new collection of fifty or sixty portraits. Part might be engraved at Edinburgh, part here.

In all events, for mere private curiosity, I should wish to have some of the portraits at Newbottle. Size, the same as the James IV. you sent, or about.

Mr. Johnson, of Newcastle, charged for Indian ink drawings 1*l.* 1*s.* each, finished. If slight outlines, tinged with Indian ink, 10*s.* 6*d.* I know you will bargain as for yourself; and I do not restrict you. Mr. Gibson will pay you when you choose. I am glad to be in your hands, after

ridiculous actions brought against me for portraits taken and sent in contradiction to my special order, &c. I have lost about 20*l.* in this odd way by the perverseness of Edinburgh artists.

Of Robert II. a slight drawing would be sufficient: of the others, drawings in Indian ink.

Those I want are (let me not forget to request that any inscriptions, dates, &c., be exactly copied,)

1. Robert II.
2. Lord Douglas (a puzzling piece: Fleccus, I suppose, is Fiacco, born 1520.)
3. The other Lord Douglas, (if any different: at any rate a sketch).
4. Earl of Argyle.
5. His wife.
6. Marquis of Argyle.
7. His wife.
8. Robert Car, Earl of Somerset.
9. David Beaton, Archbishop of St. Andrew's.

Holbein came to England, 1526. The piece of his (if not a copy) must be James V. and queen. I wish for a slight sketch of it.

Whole lengths may be cut off: that is, copy only the half. Lord Douglas, &c., if three-quarters, copy all; but do not diminish the usual size of face.

Be so good as to examine strictly backs and faces of pictures for inscriptions, &c.; and, if you discover any curious, let me know.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Preston in Lancashire, Aug. 22nd, 1799.

I intended to have set out from Tallanture last Friday; but six days' incessant rain left me no power of motion till Tuesday morning. I had your favor of the 4th, which has afforded me much matter for reflection; and I think much new light. But we will discuss the matter when we meet; when I will also endeavor to answer your questions. Being now so far on my way, I should not have troubled you with this, but to say that I hope that period will soon arrive. I am not much infected by the malign genius of politics. His visits are only at intervals, and even then short. Your advice is good; yet he is not always to be scared by a laugh; nor though, as Juvenal says, *facilis rigidi cuivis censura cachinni*, have I pliability of muscle commensurate with human absurdity.

The weather, since my departure, has, for a miracle, been tolerable; and, that no accident might be without its mortification, the rough crags of Cumberland were never exhibited fully to the eye, stripped of their cloudy covering, till the day I left them. At that moment, both lakes and mountains were splendidly adorned with all the powers of light and shadow; and, notwithstanding your *Anti-Gilpin* theory, with all their barrenness, as much superior to the corn-fields and straight canals of the south, as the umbrageous oak,

unsophisticated by human labor, to the peacock-formed yew.

You will, no doubt, be able to give much illustration to the subject of interior Africa from Leo* and Edrîsi.† I ought perhaps to have read the former before I began to write. Relatively to Cashnah, I believe Rennell took his information from Lucas's Report,‡ which says, "Cashnah is a very extended empire, containing above a thousand villages, and borders on Bornou to the East."

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, Aug. 22nd, 1799.

I have read my thing about the Gowrie business twice over, to see if I could abstract it; but it rests on such minute and multifarious proofs,

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* In the beginning of the sixteenth century, Leo Africanus wrote a description of Africa, which Windhus, in the preface of his journey to Mequinez, designates as excellent: it was originally composed in Arabic, but afterwards translated into Italian, and subsequently into French by Temporal, who published it at Lyons in 1566, in 2 vols. folio.

† Edrîsi, an Arabian author, wrote a copious treatise upon Geography in the year 1153, for the purpose of illustrating a terrestrial globe, made by order of Roger, king of Sicily. His work was printed in Arabic at Rome at the Medici press, from a manuscript preserved in the library of the Grand Duke of Tuscany.—*D'Herbelot.*

‡ Paul Lucas, a French traveller, was author of *Voyages dans la Turquie, l'Asie, Syrie, Palestine, Haute et Basse Egypte, &c. Amst.* 1720. 2 vols. 8vo.

that it is absolutely impossible. I have, however, attempted a little idea of the contents; and, if you want to see any particular fact or proof, I can remit that; or, if you choose, I shall send you the whole for your Appendix, or to use as you like. It would make about thirty close pages.

I wish you would favor me with your opinion of a History of our Poetry lately published at Edinburgh, and any other things lately printed in my way.

My Dissertation on the Gowrie Conspiracy proposes:

1. To recapitulate the opinions already advanced.
2. To propose a new theory.
3. Arguments in its support.
4. Answers to expected objections.
5. Some anecdotes little known concerning this affair.

Numerous and cogent arguments are adduced in answer to Dr. Robertson's theory.

Then my theory is proposed;

That Alexander Ruthven, a favorite of the Queen Anne of Denmark, was the sole author of the attempt, in itself foolish and weakly conducted, but designed to accomplish some object which both had in view, most probably an abdication of the government by James in favor of Prince Henry, and the Queen's appointment to the Regency.

Character of Anne.

Affair of the bonny Earl of Murray.

Weakness and pedantry of James.

Testimonies of Neville, Winwood, Peyton, Sully,

Nicholson, Osborn; the last positively ascribing this affair to *jealousy* and *fear*.

Ruthven under a temporary insanity, his mind being overpowered by the weight of the enterprize; and here the plot difficult to unravel: expression of James to Ruthven, "that he could not hope to be king."

Plan probably to carry James up the Tay to some remote castle.

Minute details: James arrived about one: Gowrie slain between five and six.

Proofs that the Earl of Gowrie was innocent.

1. He was only two weeks returned from abroad.

2. His character for wisdom and learning.

3. Ruthven wanted James to hurry to Perth, while Gowrie was at the sermon.

4. Gowrie had dined and had made no preparation.

5. He had three gentlemen (none of them implicated) to dinner. Absurd to imagine that he would summon witnesses on such an occasion.

Two other urgent proofs from the minute accounts of the conspiracy, calculated to implicate the Earl, but really acquitting him. His innocent appearance in arms to defend his brother, nevertheless, justified the adherents of James in killing him in the heat of the business; but the forfeiture most unjust, and merely to get his estate.

My Dissertation ends with answering one objection. I left it off to think of others, and never resumed it.

MR. JOHN ROSS TO MR. PINKERTON.

Main, by Elgin, Aug. 26th, 1799.

I received lately a letter from the Earl of Findlater, in which he says, that at Leipzig he had met with *Iconographia Scotica*, published by you, which had amused him very much; and he desires me, in his name, to offer his subscription to the quarto edition of that work, and to furnish you with drawings of Dame Anne Livingston, who was married to his predecessor, Sir James Ogilvie of Cardell, and of any other portraits in his possession that you may choose.

Dame Anne, or Marian, Livingston, was of the Linlithgow family, went to France with Queen Mary as her governess, became mistress of the robes, upon her marriage with the Dauphin, afterwards Francis II., and returned with her majesty to Scotland. She is represented in the dress which she wore at the tournament, at which Henry II. was mortally wounded; which dress (as I have been informed by many people who have seen it) remained at Cullen House till spring 1746, when the house was plundered by the rebels. Her husband was captain of the Queen's guard, which afterwards became the Scotch company of the King of France's life-guards. On his return to Scotland with the queen, he was made master of the household.

There is at Cullen House a very fine portrait by Vandyke, of William, Earl of Lanark, second Duke

of Hamilton, who was killed at the battle of Worcester. A portrait also of the Chancellor Earl of Seafield, of which there is a pretty good print; and a portrait of G. Jameson, by himself, sitting in the room in which he painted, which is hung round with several pictures in miniature, which he had painted. I am apprehensive, however, that it will be difficult in this part of the country to find a draftsman capable of making good and correct drawings from these portraits.

THE COUNTESS OF ANCRAM* TO MR. PINKERTON.

The Park, August 30th, 1799.

I have spoken to Lord Ancram, who has no objection to the portraits at Newbottle Abbey being copied; but he does not wish that any of them should be removed out of the house. There are many portraits, the names of which are not known, the catalogue of the pictures having been burned about thirty years ago with the house; but there are some which may, perhaps, be of use to your interesting work; as the first Earl of Haddington, the Earl of Dunfermline, the Regent Morton, a General Ruthven, and a few more. There is a portrait of Queen Mary—a copy, and

* Henrietta, first wife of the Earl of Ancram, afterwards Marquis of Lothian, was eldest daughter of John, second Earl of Buckinghamshire: she died in 1805.

not a good one; but it is unlike any one I ever saw of her, and altogether infinitely more pleasing: there are also portraits of Lord Darnley and Mary of Guise, the latter very pretty, but copies I believe: there is a James I. and Anne of Denmark in one, which looks hideous enough; but I have never seen it near.

Of the drawings I sent, the Earl of Ancram is a very faithful copy: the Abbot of Newbottle is spoiled by the eyes being placed too near, which destroys the countenance; in the original it is uncommonly fine. I had nearly forgotten the portraits of the Argyle family, of which there are several, such as the Earl of Argyle, father, I believe, to the Marquis; the Marquis of Argyle; his son, the Earl; an old Lord Lorne, and several women of the family. Lady Jane Douglas would not, I believe, enter into your plan; nor two of the next interesting portraits in the abbey, viz. Earl of Derby, beheaded at Bolton, and Charlotte de la Tremouille his wife. Besides John Calvin himself, there are several Calvinistical looking personages without names.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Odiham, Hants, Sept. 6th, 1799.

I read your Dissertation on Ossian with great satisfaction. It is full of judicious learning and exact criticism.

Only one variance in opinion arose to me. I submit it to you if you do not concede too much, when you positively say and repeat, that if any piece, however short, be found even in manuscript of the last century, you will allow the authenticity of all. I am perfectly convinced that no such discovery can be made; but it seems too much to concede.

M'Pherson did well to build his Erse forgery without rhyme, which was not known in Europe till about the ninth century. (The Welch pieces attributed to Taliessin, &c. &c. are mere forgeries, as may be proved from this circumstance alone.) It would be a matter of curiosity to discuss whether his *rhythm* be really poetical, or bear any affinity to any verses in the Celtic dialect. I suspect not.

I am here at a distance from my papers, but add a few anecdotes that rise to my memory.

The late Dr. Lorimer told me, that, at a ball, Home, the tragic poet, sat next to M'Pherson, and they talked of Erse poetry. It was in consequence of this that Home procured a subscription to enable M'Pherson to collect and print his *Fragments*.

You saw, I suppose, in one of our Magazines, a year or two ago, a story authenticated with the name. The person was present when M'Pherson brought to Mortimer the painter, an Ossian for him to draw designs. It was full of corrections and alterations written on the margin, and showed that M'Pherson had no prototype but his own fancy.

Mr. Astle, keeper of the records in the Tower, a

gentleman of great insinuation and address, told me that, meeting M'Pherson at a mutual friend's to dine, M'Pherson and he happened to be in a bow window together, when he suddenly, with a smile and cordial manner, said to M'Pherson, "Pray, now, what is the real truth about this celebrated Ossian?" M'Pherson affected to laugh, and answered, "Really, it is so long ago that I forget how it is."

Excuse this hasty scrawl and bad lady's pen.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Moredon, by Edinburgh,
September 11th, 1799.

I received Lady Ancram's permission on Monday, and applied yesterday to Caldwall, whom I am sorry I could not procure on the terms I expected. I was obliged, as no other could be had, to agree to a guinea a-week for his subsistence for three weeks, which will make an addition of about seven shillings to the price of each of the ten portraits, mentioned in your letter. Were I to undertake the next number, I should think it incumbent on me to reimburse your expense, for the benefit of engraving them. But I hope that you will be enabled, if you see Constable, to continue them yourself. Lady Ancram recommended Lord Lothian and the Earl of Haddington to be copied. Caldwall has drawings of G. Heriot, and Ayton

the architect, which he might dispose of at the usual rate. I shall superintend his progress at Newbottle, and procure you a copy of the whole catalogue. He begins next week.

The History of Scotch Poetry published here, is a ridiculous quarto by Campbell, a musician.* It contains a collection of Scotish songs worse than Ritson's, with an introduction in a dialogue to prove the authenticity of Ossian. As the proof of this, it gave the first intimation of M'Pherson's poem, *the Highlander*,† which I borrowed from Campbell, and have transcribed the most material passages in my Dissertation on Ossian, which I hope you have received from Constable.

The Abstract of your Dissertation on Gowrie's Conspiracy opens a wide view of the subject. As it is impossible to insert the minute and multifarious proofs in a short abstract, the latter might appear unsatisfactory to the reader. But your offer to send me the whole Dissertation, to append or to use as I like, I shall most eagerly embrace. If you have no intention to publish it

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* The work here alluded to is an *Introduction to the History of Poetry in Scotland, from the beginning of the thirteenth century down to the present time, together with a conversation on Scotish Songs, &c. by Alexander Campbell; embellished with characteristic designs composed and engraved by the late David Allan.* Edin. 1799, 4to. Mr. Campbell also published *a History of the Rebellion in Scotland in* 1745, *Remarks on Scotish Landscape*, &c.

† It is very much upon the strong resemblance between many passages in this poem and in Ossian, that Mr. Laing founds his strongest argument for their having both proceeded from the same pen.

separately, I should esteem it the most valuable addition that could be made to my History. Mr. Strahan is prepared to receive it as such; and I should annex it to my first volume with a suitable acknowledgment in the note on Logan, and in the preface. As the copy-right would remain with you, you could republish it afterwards with any future Dissertations to make a volume; for it would be lost as a pamphlet. If this is agreeable to your ideas, it might be sent to me by the mail-coach, to prepare an introductory note, &c.

I am preparing materials for a treatise or dissertation, which I may begin in winter, on my return to Edinburgh. Much has been written on Queen Mary's innocence, especially by Whitaker,* whose vindication is a uniform perversion of every historical fact. The controversy is exhausted on the one side; but, on the other, since Hume and Robertson, the truth remains entire and untouched. My design is to give a short historical deduction of the queen's conduct under distinct heads, in the order of time, which will comprehend, and is the best mode to determine, every controverted point, from her marriage with Darnley till the conclusion of the conference at Westminster. The plan was suggested, I think, in your preface to the Ancient Scotish Poems; but, if you have abandoned it for more valuable researches into our early history, I shall very probably undertake the task. In this, and in the detection of Ossian, you may perceive

* *Mary Queen of Scots Vindicated, by Rev. John Whitaker.* London, 1785. 3 vols. 8vo.

how much I am indebted to your hints. I mention it thus early that I may either desist, if you mean to execute it, or obtain your assistance in the inspection of the manuscripts, if you have relinquished the design.

September 12th.—I have just received your favor of the 6th, and am highly gratified with your approbation of my Dissertation. I shall not fail to avail myself of your hints; and, if it encroaches not too much on your time, I would request more observations. M'Pherson's Erse versification, with occasional rhymes, has no affinity to the intricacy of Irish prosody, as explained in Lloyd's Archæologia. I was not sure (till you mentioned in your letter)* of the date at which

* The question of the date of the first invention of rhyme is one that has been repeatedly discussed with much acuteness, and industry, and learning. Mr. Pinkerton, in the preface to his edition of Barbour's Bruce, p. 12, says, "whether rhyme originated from the Arabs, and, upon their conquest of Spain in the year 712, spread first to France, and thence to the rest of Europe, as Salmasius and Huet think; or whether it began among the monks of Italy in the eighth century, as some others suppose, (for these are the only two opinions which now divide the literati upon this subject,) certain it is that this mode of versification may be regarded as foreign to the general idiom of any European language, and of very late appearance in most." Here then we have his opinion at length. As to the *Culex* of Virgil, it is, as every one knows, so corrupted in the text, that no opinion can safely be drawn from it in the state in which it is come down to us; and the specimen of rhyming Latin often adduced from Persius, or even the triplets quoted from Ennius, and from an anonymous author by Cicero in his Tusculan Questions, are surely not sufficient to establish the fact of its having been used among the Romans. Still less would I lean upon the

rhyme was introduced. The *Culex* of Virgil or Catullus is, indeed, a curious example of Latin rhyme at an early period; but that is explained by the peculiar structure of Latin and Greek, whose numerous similar inflexions render rhyme infinitely more easy, and more necessary to be avoided by inversion, than in modern languages. If you have any other destination for your Dissertation on Gowrie, use no ceremony in refusing my request.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, September 26th, 1799.

Excuse my troubling you with another postage, as I know not where Mr. Stuart is, though his secretary opens his franks, and remits my letters; and the delay of a few days may be important to our artist.

I know not how to thank you for your obliging attention. I am far from grudging the extra three guineas, which I think right and fair.

By whole lengths being cut off, I mean that only the half-length be taken; as the face is our main object, which ought to be from an inch to an inch and a half long. Size of drawing in all, about five inches and a half, by four and a half; but

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instances which Mr. Sharon Turner brings forward from Homer and other Greek poets, though I consider his two papers on the subject, inserted in the 14th vol. of the *Archæologia*, as eminently ingenious, and entitled to the highest praise.

this must be partly regulated by the form of the original.

Lord Douglas I would copy as it is; face at least one inch, or one inch and a half. I pay extra for his thighs, which, by the by, always make a three-quarters, not a half-length.

In case of full length, where the under part is remarkable, it can be drawn apart on a separate paper. I believe I have now put every case that can occur. To leave no doubt, let me add in a word: all half-lengths reduce to about five and a half by four and a half inches. Lord Douglas, a three-quarter, will, of course, be two or three inches longer in the drawing: whole lengths take only the upper half; and so they will be the same as half-lengths. Any singularity worth drawing apart, as in the legs, &c., can never occur later than the year 1600.

Excuse this tautology, to obviate any further obscurity. I return to your former favor of September 11th: (your last, just received, is September 21).

I sent, September 12th, my Gowrie manuscript to Mr. Campbell, and hope it has reached you. It is absolutely and entirely at your service; and I have not the most remote view of making any other use of it.

I wish you would undertake the Portraits, or join with me in it. The expense of the drawings is quite a distinct thing: the publisher must repay that by itself. This is a matter of course. The publishers here paid for all the drawings, except the gratis communications.

Mary I have totally dropped. I like your design, and shall be ready to assist, so far as my avocations will permit.

Concerning *Rime*, look at my preface to Barbour. *Culex* is of dubious faith. Rime in Italy about A.D. 850, or 900. In Scandinavia, A.D. 1200. Not known in Wales, time of Giraldus Cambrensis.

Suffer me, my dear friend, once for all, to apologise for any abruptness that may look cross or peremptory in my hasty correspondence, and which really arises only from fatigue and a wish for brevity. To-day, for instance, I have been laboring with my pen for six hours.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

October 6th, 1799.

I received last week, and have since repeatedly read, your Dissertation on the Gowrie Conspiracy, for which I am greatly indebted to your friendship. It will form the most valuable addition to my History, and is undoubtedly conclusive; as it is the only probable or satisfactory explanation of that obscure transaction which it is possible to produce. I read it with a view to start objections; but the only one that occurred, was the two messengers sent by Alexander to Gowrie during the chase; which, as Gowrie neither expected nor was prepared for the king's arrival, serves only to discredit Henderson's evidence. I would pro-

pose therefore to omit the concluding objections, as of no force, and entitled to no attention. If your present researches permit you to subjoin the anecdotes promised in the beginning, I shall return the Dissertation. If not, I shall send it, about six weeks hence, to the printer, with directions to transmit the proof sheets to you.

I went yesterday to Newbottle, to order the additional portraits mentioned in your letter of the 29th. You must not trust entirely to the catalogue. The Marquis of Argyle, whole length, was given lately to the present Duke. The other in the great room has also disappeared; but the one copied in the dining-room is a striking countenance. Jameson's whole-length is the only one remaining of the Marquis's father. Lady Anne Campbell is not to be found, and is probably a mistake in the catalogue for a second portrait of Lady Jean, at a different age. Jean and Annabella Campbell are curious.

Holbein's James seems to be the same countenance with the sketch you inclosed of James IV.; and I think his queen is not Mary of Guise. Fliccus' threë James's seem to me to be different from any I have seen; but I shall compare them next week with your portraits. I expect farther information then from Mr. Turner, a gentleman in the vicinity, both of the portraits, and of Geraldus Fliccus;* who from his two Douglas's must have been a masterly painter.

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* Mr. Pinkerton, in the letter to which this is an answer, had requested Mr. Laing to cause to be copied for him, on trans-

Mr. Alexander Colville has no date, but is a striking portrait, and must either be the Colville mentioned by Burnet, in his History,* which I have not here, or, as the dress would indicate, some early reformer of the sixteenth century. I shall find him in Calderwood's manuscript, which I mean to consult on my return to town.

The best picture of Drake is in the piece of the three Circumnavigators, Hawkins, &c., in the best bed-chamber, which is highly esteemed.

In addition to these, Colonel Lumsden, in the great room, the gallant commander who was killed at Dundee, when stormed by Monk, and Colonel Ruthven in the blue room, the general, I believe, of the Gowrie family, whom Charles created Earl of Forth and Brentford, are curious

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parent paper, the name of G. Fliccus, observing that he did not know of any such painter. Nor can I find his name mentioned by Horace Walpole, or in Vertue's Catalogue of the Pictures of Charles I., as Mr. Laing suggests in his next letter, or in any other work which I possess. His christian name, according to a letter from Mr. Caldwall, which I have not printed, appears to be *Gertacus*, not *Geraldus*.

* Colville succeeded Leighton in the headship of the College of Edinburgh. He was one of the leading Presbyterian ministers of the year 1662; and Burnet, who mentions him as being also one of the wisest among them, records a speech he made to the Earl of Middleton, who pressed him for his opinion, whether defensive arms were legal or not. The question, he replied, had been often put to him, and he had always declined to answer it; but to him he plainly said, he wished that kings and their ministers would believe them lawful, and so govern as men that expect to be resisted; but he wished that all their subjects would believe them to be unlawful; and so the world would be at quiet.

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portraits. Regent Morton is more striking than either, and seems an original. Beckford has a portrait of Regent Murray, in greater preservation than the one in Lord Murray's possession. There is a picture in Edinburgh of Alexander Henderson, whose portrait in your first numbers was taken from a print. I shall mention occasionally such portraits as I hear of, that you may add such as were unknown to your list. I can certainly have no objection to join with you in the next number of the Portraits, as you propose in your letter of the 26th. But, in this case, I could only act under your directions in the choice of portraits, as I have no knowledge as yet of the subject, and cannot rely on my own taste or skill in appointing copies to be taken. At the same time, if you continue the work alone, I will undertake the whole trouble for you in Scotland, in the same manner as if concerned in it, during the six months that I remain yearly in Edinburgh. I can contribute neither information nor skill, nor aught but my trouble, which you may command at any rate; and, by dispatching Caldwall to different places, to copy such portraits as you may appoint, I think in a few months a sufficient number may be collected for another publication. If you desire or wish it, I shall certainly join with you; but you must be sensible how difficult it is for one residing in Scotland, to acquire such taste and skill in painting as to judge of the merit of portraits.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

October 8th, 1799.

I was again at Newbottle yesterday, to compare the James's with your engraved portraits. Holbein's James is unquestionably James IV.; and his queen is the same with Margaret, in the large satirical print in your gallery. As hers is an original, Holbein would naturally be employed to take a copy from some picture of her deceased husband. The supposed James's by Fliccus are a mistake: they have no resemblance to any of the James's, and, from their dress, &c., were probably some French Lords at the Scotish Court.

I have got no information of Fliccus. He is termed Germanicus in the inscription on Lord Douglas, of which a fac-simile will be made. His name occurs in some author which my informer has forgotten, perhaps in Vertue's Catalogue of Charles the First's paintings. His Douglas killed at Otterburn (the other seems by an inferior artist) may be compared with the best productions of Holbein, for ease, dignity, expression, and richness of colors. As Caldwall has bestowed above a week upon it, and must be paid extra, I have directed him to color it slightly, for your better satisfaction.

Lady Anne Campbell is found. Ker of Kersfield is a mistake in the catalogue for William, Earl of Lothian, son of Robert, whom you have engraved. There are two pictures of the Earl of

Somerset, not very like: the one, a most expressive countenance, highly finished, the other, flat and insipid. Would you have a sketch also of the latter?

As to the Roberts, I was surprised to find that the whole series of kings, real and fabulous, in the housekeeper's room, are by Jameson. His name is on many of them; and I am assured, indeed it is obvious, that the rest are by the same hand. Robert I. is the same with your print from the picture at Taymouth. James III. has nearly the same countenance with the engraving from the picture at Kensington. Alexander III., in particular, appears a striking countenance. Unluckily, Guthrie's History was not, as I expected, in the library at Newbottle, to compare the prints with Robert II. and III. I believe, myself, that Jameson drew these and Robert Bruce's and Wallace's portraits, like Metellanus and our fabulous kings, from his own imagination; and I have some recollection of the same faces engraved in an old translation of Buchanan, from which I believe they were copied by Guthrie. The same pictures of Jameson might be copied perhaps by De Witz for the gallery at Holyrood House. But they are the only pictures to be had of Robert II. and III. Bruce, or Wallace.

The first Earl of Haddington's two portraits are the only ones extant of that nobleman. There is a remarkable picture of Duns Scotus, distinguished by the penetrating yet studious expression of features, and the extreme delicacy of the

face and hands. I begin to acquire a relish for the subject, which I had not before.

MR. GODWIN* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Somers Town, Oct. 10th, 1799.

It is both with regret and astonishment that I have read the note you have thought proper to address to me. With what "good-humored carelessness" our acquaintance commenced, I am unable to say; but sure I am that expressions of mutual esteem marked the progress of it, and that these, if they were equally sincere on both sides, ought to have given it a very different character.

What were the offences you include under the general term of the "singularities" of Friday, I am unable to guess; and, as my heart was free from all thought of offence, it is very possible, that, in attempting, I may guess wrong. I acknowledge, that, in asking you whether you wrote the review of Heron's History, I was guilty of a breach of etiquette; and it may perhaps be a greater fault in me than I am aware of, that I have never regularly subjected my feelings to the laws of etiquette. When you denied it to be yours, with my whole heart I yielded ample credit to your assertion: when you said you had before told me

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* The author of the *History of the Commonwealth of England*, &c. &c. &c.

that for the last five years you had not written in the Critical Review, though I had no recollection of the circumstance, I did not harbor the shadow of a doubt of either your veracity or your accuracy. In assigning a reason for this conjecture of a moment, I confess I thought it not impossible that you might suffer your conduct to be influenced by personal feelings; but I saw that this idea gave you what I then thought an instant of displeasure. That I was right in this supposition, the note now before me affords me the most ample testimony: nor did I apprehend that I should be guilty of personal affront to you, when I spoke of a failing, from which in my soul I believe no human being is free. When I saw, however, that I had given you pain, I instantly added that I had found veins of candor in your writings, more pure than I recollected in the writings of any other man; and this concession I thought would have sufficiently atoned with any man of temper and moderation.

I deemed it more suitable to the sentiments of respect with which our acquaintance has impressed me for you, to say thus much, than to pass over your note in silence and neglect. I am extremely grieved that a man of your uncommon merit should be liable to a caprice so violent and undeserved. If it were true indeed, that "in scarcely one principle of religion, morals, politics, or literature, is there a shadow of agreement between us," this would strip our acquaintance of many charms. But this is the coloring of your passion, not the decision of your tranquil reason.

I find too few men in the world of your extensive information, your industrious research, your power of investigation, your principles of honor, and your general candor of mind, not to cherish their intimacy when I find them, by every act of kindness and friendship it occurs to me as possible to exert. My predilections of this sort are soberly formed, and almost impossible to be shaken. A moment's reflection will teach you that this is honest commendation. I can have no earthly temptation to flatter you; and, if I had, I should disdain it. May you meet with many friends more competent than I to appreciate your merit; and more fortunate in not giving you inadvertent offence! In the temper that now directs you, the acknowledgment will probably be fruitless; but I have not the smallest difficulty in saying, that I am extremely sorry that any act of mine, however innocent of an intention unjust or unkind, should have given you occasion of displeasure.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, Oct. 13th, 1799.

Two of your esteemed favors are now before me, one undated about Gowrie, the last of the 8th instant.

My thoughts are in other channels at present; and I can add nothing. You may dash out in the beginning the proposed divisions of *objections* and *anecdotes*. The latter was, I believe, chiefly from

Lord Hailes, and was originally proposed only to render the pamphlet palatable as a detached piece. Thus the thing will be complete. Any corrections or improvements that suggest themselves to you, pray make. The objection about the messages I shall examine for private curiosity, and let you know the result.

As to the portraits, I would have *drawings* of James IV. and queen. Your conjecture on them is acute, and shows that a very little practice would render you a good critic on the subject.

Of the Regent Murray there is no portrait at Fonthill. It is a gentleman of this century in a Highland dress. If Lord Murray have one, it would be most important to procure a drawing, as I know of no other.

I wish Caldwall would barely outline in black lead one of the pretended James's by Fliccus, and send immediately, that I may judge of the dress.

Jameson was himself an antiquary, and had a collection of medals, &c. I have no doubt but he copied old monuments and limnings when extant; and many existed in his time which perished in the subsequent civil wars. Alexander III. was much in England; and limnings of him might exist. Beyond him all must be imaginary. His Robert I. being the same, serves to show that he had prototypes. When painting at Taymouth he would hardly send for an ideal head, when he could have furnished one at once.

You do not mention James II. by Jameson, copied by Lord Buchan from Newbottle. Are James I. IV. and V. by Jameson there also?

Wallace must be ideal: what is the dress?

There is a set of our kings by Cooper, the same as Guthrie, separate plates, to be found in my time in any shop in Edinburgh.

The publication is in no hurry. As you spoke of Constable, perhaps he might take half, and I could get some publisher here to take the other. But, for this purpose, I wait till I have the Newbottle drawings here, that I may show a foundation.

In this way, half may be engraved at Edinburgh; but the best should be by London artists of real merit. I would publish all at once in a volume; not in numbers: suppose you draw up the short account of those engraved in Scotland, and I the English.

The best school is, merely to examine collections of engraved portraits, &c., which in a very short time will initiate an ingenious man like yourself in this science. Read also Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting, a work of elegant literary relaxation.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, Oct. 26th, 1799.

Yesterday I transmitted Caldwall's outlines of one of Fliccus's supposed James's, with his description of the dress: the likeness and the dress are exact. There are no James's supposed by Jameson, unless the first, second, and third men-

tioned in the catalogue, which are much torn and defaced, and seem nearly the same with those in Guthrie. On comparing one of them, I forget which, with the James II. or III. in the first numbers of your Portraits, though the same face, it appeared much inferior, and had no mark of Jameson but a deep coloring, and appearing in a series of which some are inscribed, and others not, with his name. Wallace is in plate-armor, with a scarf, or rather mantle, over his shoulders, fastened on the breast with a clasp, or round brooch. The face is red, like Bruce's.

I forget if I ever mentioned the fine portrait of Darnley by Jameson at Newbottle, which is quite different from the gigantic face at Holyrood House. The face is womanish, in the bloom of youth; the person tall, yet robust enough; and the hands of an enormous size. It is more than a half-length; half way down the thighs, like James I., in your first number. It is highly esteemed; and, if there is no authentic portrait or print of Darnley, deserves to be engraved.

Lord Murray certainly had a portrait of the regent taken when a boy of nine. Constable means to get a copy to engrave and prefix to a publication of old poems in the press. But, if the original is of any value, this can be prevented. He will engage for a fourth, but is afraid to undertake for half an impression, as there is no sale in Scotland for the Portraits in comparison of London. I expect lists from the Duke of Roxburgh of the portraits in his possession; and from others, of portraits of families in the North. On

Monday I examined the Winton family: the faces are exactly represented in your engraving.

The inferior portraits can be engraved here very well, and cheaper than at London. I have now no objection whatever to engage with you in the Portraits, and to write the accounts of such as are engraved here. If any anecdotes of the characters occur in manuscripts, I shall take care to note them.

I must now request your assistance in the controversy concerning Mary. A supposed original of her French contract of marriage with Bothwell, in the Cotton Library, is pronounced a forgery by Ruddiman* and Goodal (i. 126. ii. 54.) on the authority of Crawford of Drumsay. I enclose Crawford's observations in his manuscript collection, from which I am convinced that it is a mere copy, which was never meant to pass for an original. It is pasted on the back of Mary's reply, Oct. 16th, to Murray's answer, (*Caligula*, ch. i. fol. 202.) The original was produced at Westminster, in the Roman or Italian hand, which the queen wrote. It would be absurd to suppose that this was forged in a chancery hand, which was the very reverse of the queen's. Her name, from Crawford's example of it, seems to me to be written in

* Thomas Ruddiman, who was a highly distinguished Scotch grammarian and critic, published an edition of the works of George Buchanan. Walter Goodal, a Scotch antiquary, who also wrote in the middle of the last century, was author of an *Examination of the Letters said to be written by Mary, Queen of Scots, to James, Earl of Bothwell, shewing, by intrinsic and extrinsic evidence, that they are forgeries.*

the same chancery hand, which renders the supposed forgery a mere copy, mistaken by Welwood for the original. If you can examine, or procure some impartial person to examine the paper, it would decide the point. I add from Forbes an inaccurate fac-simile of Mary's signature in 1559. But many of her letters are in the Cotton Library (*Cal.* i. 280.) to compare with the French contract. If, in addition to your opinion, you think that a few lines of her real hand-writing and signature, and of the contract and subscription to it, would be necessary or satisfactory to the public when engraved, I shall request that you would procure a fac-simile of both.

Crawford observes that Morton's declaration of seizing the casket, and Crawford's evidence, have been torn out of the same volume. (*Cal.* ch. i. about fol. 165 and 252.) The journal of the commissioners on Tuesday, Dec. 7th, 1568, is also wanting. (*Goodal,* ii. 235. *Cotton Lib. Cal.* i. between fol. 239—241.) When the manuscript is inspected, I should wish to know if these breaches are apparent.

I hope that these inquiries can be answered by the librarian, if you are not in town. If so, I shall trouble you with such others as may occur. The expense of the fac-simile, &c., can be settled afterwards.

THE MARQUIS OF BUTE* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Hill Street, Nov. 1st, 1799.

It would afford me much pleasure and satisfaction to contribute in any way I could to render your interesting work still more valuable. Trifling as the permission to copy a print may seem, and to my way of thinking it certainly is so, considerable difficulty in my instance attends it. My collection is in the country, locked up with various other valuable articles; the key left in the country; and no access to it but by another key which I keep myself, being the passport to all my papers. You must perceive therefore how impossible it is for me to assist your views, without I was myself on the spot. In that case again, the person you mean to employ must remain at Luton Park; for the Scotish kings are not in one volume, but intermixed in several, and the whole so curiously embellished, let in, and adorned, that you yourself would be the last, with your taste and predilection for prints, to wish them out of sight for a moment. If you will call on me any morning about eleven, we will talk the matter over more at leisure; and, if you will do me the favor of coming to Luton any time I happen to be there, I shall be very glad to show you what I possess.

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* John, fourth Earl, and first Marquis of Bute, born 1744, died 1814.

It is a thousand pities that Mr. Harding could not be prevailed upon to have the print after Margaret, Queen of Scots, well finished. So curious a picture deserved every exertion from the engraver. I saw the drawing, and thought it done with great accuracy and taste.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, Nov. 7th, 1799.

Various occupations and rainy weather have prevented my going to the Museum: else I would have inspected the papers you desire. At the same time it struck me that the affair was in no hurry. If I be mistaken in this, let me know. It will be very gratifying to me to assist your ingenious researches; but I am sometimes so busy that I must have time, if it make no odds; but be always so good as to mention if you wish a speedy answer, or what time will do. I am seldom so pressed but I could give you a forenoon with pleasure when you wish it; otherwise, I study my own convenience and am rarely in town. The fac-similes I shall order if I see cause.

Allow me to remark that your references show inacquaintance with the Cotton Library. Originally each *press* had a bust upon it; Julius, Augustus, &c. &c. Each *shelf* is marked with a letter of the alphabet; A. B. C., &c. Each *book* is numbered, I. II. III., &c. Thus *Cal.* ch. 1. (*for* C. 1.) *Caligula*, i. 280, are no references at

all, because the letter of the alphabet (the shelf) is wanting. A regular reference would be, *Julius*, A. i. p. 280: *Cal.* c. ii. p. 10. *Domitian*, E. viii. p. 20, &c. &c. Attend to this, as a whole day may be lost by a wrong reference.

You also mention that Mary wrote "the Roman *or* Italian hand." These are quite different hands. I never saw any letter of hers in the Roman hand. In John Davidson's Letters is a good fac-simile of Mary's name, not like the one you sent. The M is larger than all the letters but the final *e*.

I do not know how to thank you for your obliging attention about the portraits, and am glad to learn that you are willing to share the labor. When I have the Newbottle drawings to show, I can speak to some publishers here, and mention Mr. Constable's fourth.

The Regent Murray, æt. 9, is of no moment to us; but it is curious, if authentic; and I hope it will be exactly engraved, with any old inscriptions, arms, &c.

Of Darnley there are several genuine effeminate portraits.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, Nov. 28th, 1799.

I have been at the Museum, and have taken notes on every subject you mention.

I. Mary's promise to Bothwell (*Cal.* c. i. p.

206,) is most undoubtedly a copy, without any pretence or intention of passing for an original. It is written in an excellent and experienced Roman hand, seemingly by a secretary or clerk, and ends with "*écrit*, &c.," without place or date; an abbreviation usual in copies, but never occurring in any original.

The signature is by the copyist in the same Roman hand, sloping a little, but not so much as to be termed Italian: a mere little distinction, such as you or I would make in marking the signature. The *M* and *R* (in Regina) very long, without the smallest attempt at any imitation of Mary's real signature.

You may safely affirm, *meo periculo*, that whoever argues upon this writing, as either original or forgery, argues in mere ignorance.

II. There is no appearance of any *lacuna* at fol. 165; nor at 239, 241. The *old paging* goes on regularly. There may possibly be *one* leaf wanting at fol. 252, as the leaves are oddly pasted together.

III. As to the confessions of French Paris, the second* (*Cal.* C. i. f. 318, 325,) is a notarial copy from the original in his own hand-writing, as avouched by the real signature and docket of Alex. Hay, clerk of the Privy Council, and N. P. It is evidently taken before the Privy

* "The deposition of Nic. Haubert (alias Paris), servant to the Earl of Bothwell, concerning the death of Henry Darnley (French). St. Andrew's, August 10, 1569."—*Catalogue of the Cottonian Library*, p. 93.

Council, and afterwards copied and avouched by the clerk.

The first confession* (*Cal.* B. ix. f. 370.,) has every possible mark of an original, written by himself in the way of a private and free confession. It is in an indifferent French hand; every leaf is marked at the bottom, *N*; that is, N. H., a contraction of N. Hubert; and it is also signed at the end, *N*. I have, as you desired, ordered it to be copied directly; and a French copyist will be employed for the more exactness.

The Paper Office is in the sole care of my respectable friend, Thomas Astle, Esq. It is now two years since I had occasion to trouble him; but I dare say I should find him as obliging as ever.

Allow me, my dear Sir, to hint, that I would not wish any thing of serious importance to appear very speedily from your pen after your History. Allow a year or two to pass; for any rapidity of publication might injure both works in the public eye. Were I writing on Mary, I would indulge a page or two of irony, pretending to grant that all the papers which militate against her are forgeries, (so say her advocates,) and that all for her are incontestably veracious.

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† "Deposition of Haubert de Paris, servant to the Scotish queen, concerning the murder of her husband, at which he was present (French). St. Andrew's, Aug. 9, 1569."—*Catalogue of the Cottonian Library*, p. 83.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

St. Valeri, Dec. 1st, 1799.

If you happen to have a copy of the comedies of the fair German nun, Hroswitha, might I beg of you to transcribe the passage (if it be not long) in which the vision of the cross that appears to Gallicanus is described? It is in the comedy which bears his name. I do not believe there is a copy of these comedies in the kingdom. Is there not some account of them subjoined to the last edition of the *Essay on Old Maids?*

My Essay on the revival of the Drama in Italy is in great forwardness. I am rich in materials: besides a large collection of *rappresentazioni,* I have got the *Timone, Calandra,* and several other comedies written before 1500. Nor am I without hopes of a fresh accession. As you are acquainted with the nature of my undertaking, may I beg an occasional hint?

As I can now supply several deficiencies in my *Memoir,* I am meditating a Supplement. I have got the *Sofonisba* of Galleotto del Caretto, the *Tullia* of Martelli, the *Marianna* of Dolce, and several other scarce and curious pieces, which should have been more fully noticed. The three pieces, however, which I have just enumerated, belong to a friend; so that I cannot boast of them as constituting part of my collection.

Though the times are not favorable for literature, I trust you are not dle. If history be still your

favorite, I hope you have some great work on the anvil. The history of your own country has still claims upon you.

I wish you would take up some brilliant period in the literary history of Spain, and pour a flood of light upon it. We know too little of the literature of that country. Is there much in Southey's *Letters on Spain and Portugal?* As yet, that work has not reached me. Is it known who wrote Letters from an English Traveller in Spain, in 1778, on the Origin and Progress of Poetry in that kingdom? Is the author of the Letters on Spanish Literature in the Monthly Magazine known? By the by, that is one of the best conducted Magazines in England: it is particularly acceptable to a recluse like me, who wishes to know something of the state of literary affairs on the Continent. On the subject of antiquities, I still continue to draw information from my old friend, Urban.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, Dec. 6th, 1799.

Your letter gave me equal surprise and satisfaction, not only from the explanation of the contract, but from the discovery that Hubert's first confession is apparently autograph. Next to the authenticity of Mary's letters, it is the most important discovery that could be made in the controversy. There is an asterisk in the first confession referred

to in the second, which I hope the transcriber will insert in its proper place.

The material papers in the Paper Office are: 1st, The original extract of Bothwell's trial, 12th April, 1567, attested by Bellenden, Justice Clerk. Whether it mentions, as Keith * intimates (375) that Pitcairn, commendator of Dunfermline, Lovat Lindsay, James Macgill and Henry Balneaves sat as assessors with Argyle, the Justice General?

2nd, The original of Hubert's second confession: in what or whose hands it is written? whether it bears to have been taken before the privy council? what are the words in the blank left by Anderson and Goodal, "*une cassette où il y avoit* ..... *que le Thesaurier lui avoit apporté de France?*" &c., and whether, in a former paragraph, (Anderson ii. 196.) "*Jehan Hepburne feroit le* GRIET *soubs les gallleries à Sainte Croix,*" *griet* should not be *guêt*—"kept watch?" and whether *Vendredy* and *Sampmedy* in Anderson's† edition of the Confession (ii. 199, 200) are correct or a mistake in printing?

These two originals are mentioned by Anderson, *I. Pref.* x. *and Vol.* ii., *contents*, as in the Paper Office.

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* *History of the Affairs of the Kirk and State of Scotland, from the beginning of the Reformation in the reign of King James V. to the retreat of Queen Mary into England, anno* 1568, *by Robert Keith. Edin.* 1734, folio.

† James Anderson was an eminent Scotch antiquary, who published the very rare and valuable work entitled, *Selectus Diplomatum et Numismatum Scotiæ Thesaurus.* He also published, what is here more particularly referred to, *Collections relating to the History of Mary Queen of Scotland. Edin.* 1727—28, 4 vols. 4to.

3rd, Robertson, in his Appendix, Vol. i., Number xxiv., has printed an account of Lord Herries' behaviour in parliament, December 15th, 1567, which must be erroneous, as Huntley and Argyle were present, the Duke of Châtelherault and Abbot of Killwenning absent. It must belong to a convention in 1569, at which they were present—Query, if the date assigned by Robertson is prefixed to this paper in the same hand?

These are all the inquiries I have to make at the Paper Office; but, if you find it difficult or troublesome, I can apply to a Mr. Bruce, one of the keepers, who was once a professor here. I shall observe your advice not to publish for a year; especially as so much new information may occur in the interval. For instance, I have discovered the original manuscript used by Crawford in his Memoirs, which proves these Memoirs to be a gross imposture. I have no doubt, with the assistance which I obtain from your friendship, to procure a final decision of the controversy.

The portraits are copying according to your directions. My Appendix, containing your Dissertation, is delayed till the second volume of my History is nearly printed, when you will receive the proof-sheets. I am greatly indebted to you for your trouble and inquiries at the Museum. If you have any suspicion of the first confession not being Hubert's hand, a fac-simile might enable us to compare it with a French hand which occurs sometimes in our records here, but which is much larger than the one you describe.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, Jan. 7th, 1800.

So many delays occur, and such constant superintendance is necessary in getting papers copied at the Museum, &c., that you had better apply yourself to any of the officers on the spot. The paper you wanted is not yet done, though ordered a month ago; and, as I am entering on a laborious work, which will fill all my time, you will excuse my ordering or looking after copies; though I shall always be ready to inspect and give my opinion on particular points which depend solely on my own eyes and hands.

The papers concerning Mary are so numerous, that one cannot trust partial publications of them; and the question often rests on such minute circumstances, that I would advise you to turn over all the manuscripts yourself before you publish on the topic. I see that Campbell, in his odd book, says that I published the bad portraits in the *Iconographiæ*, and that I could not read the *colophon* in Barbour's Bruce. As to the first, years ago I protested in the Monthly Magazine against those bad portraits, inserted by Herbert in spite of my positive prohibition; and in consequence I desired him not to put my name to the book, which he impudently did; and, as to the second charge, I never saw the manuscript of Barbour. The copy was made in Scotland and sent up here (Pref. p. vii.). I wish you would anonymously in

one of your Magazines expose these specimens of Mr. Campbell's candor and love of truth.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

January 20th, 1800.

I inclose a list of sixteen of the drawings from Newbottle, which Gibson will forward to you by the first opportunity this week. I can answer for the likeness of the whole being most correct. The only deviations from your directions are in the Black Douglas of the Catalogue, of which a drawing was done before you ordered a sketch, and the Regent Morton, which appeared to me so singular a portrait, that I directed a drawing to be taken instead of a sketch. Caldwall is busily employed on the rest, and expects to recommend himself to some notice here, when the drawings are engraved. I have advanced him as yet only 10*l.* I am anxious for your opinion of their merit. It is unnecessary to observe that family tradition is the sole authority for the designations of the two Douglas's; but the tradition may have been preserved by some old catalogue destroyed by the fire at Newbottle. Caldwall has omitted, I think, to mark below the Marquis of Argyle's name, *ætat.* 72, as in the catalogue.

I shall endeavor, if possible, to get to London next November, to examine the papers in the Museum myself. In the mean time, I shall be

much obliged to you for a recommendation to some one of the officers or keepers, to whom I may apply for extracts of papers. The Paper-Office I can obtain access to easily.

Inglis's *Complaint of Scotland* is reprinting here *literatim* with some old poems, of both which I shall endeavor to send you copies as soon as they come out.

I shall insert a paragraph, as you mention, in the Edinburgh Magazine respecting the portraits and Barbour; but Campbell is so low in the public estimation, and his book so little known, that it will not do to allude to either.

THE MARQUIS OF BUTE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Hill Street, Jan. 27th, 1800.

I have been waiting to see a Spanish gentleman, extremely versed in the literature of his country, before I returned an answer to your question concerning Spanish geographical books; and, not having yet been so lucky, I must still defer it. I certainly possess none myself purely geographical; and I doubt whether any such exist. In topography no kingdom is so rich; and to have a complete collection, or completer than one's neighbor, is at once the object and the boast of the curious collector—such, for example, as Campomanes.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Jan. 27th, 1800.

I am, and always have been, fully convinced, my dear friend, that the motive of your letter to Mr. N. during my absence was the sincerity of your friendship for me. Whatever unpleasant effects therefore may result from that interference, it is incumbent on me, as far as may be possible, to obviate.

Impressed with this idea, I wrote to him in the summer very explicitly; avowing that the report came from me to you, and justifying your address to him in consequence of my absence. This I considered as final, and as an assumption to myself of the comment on his behavior. Still influenced by the same sentiments, I shall most assuredly suffer no opportunity to be lost, which may offer of vindicating you from a groundless charge.

I think you have mistaken my meaning in what I related to you of Major Rennell's expression. It did not amount to an accusation; or I should have answered it more distinctly. Major Rennell, I believe, said, " Mr. Pinkerton seems to have entertained a wrong idea of *our* sentiments with regard to your (Browne's) book. He appears to have thought us hostile to it, and to have attributed to poor N. expressions detracting from it; though, in fact, Sir Joseph Banks, myself, and all our friends, have invariably been friendly to the

work." I replied that, with regard to N., he was certainly misinformed; as the charge against him came originally from a very different quarter; that I did not believe you could ever have entertained or expressed any such idea; and that, I had always thought myself indebted for their (Sir Joseph Banks and his) friendly conduct towards me. I doubtless did not enter into a detail of the letters that had passed, &c., which appeared to me perfectly unnecessary; as the hint was incidental to our main business, and, moreover, thus contradicted *in limine*. You will allow sufficiently for error in quoting a conversation from memory after several days; but I am certain that no expression of stronger import occurred.

Your solemn appeal to my love of truth and justice, and to my friendship for you, made it necessary that I should ascertain immediately whether that impression to your prejudice, (viz. that the report against N. originated with yourself,) really existed; for, could I have conceived it to operate, those very sentiments would long since have led me to do it away of my own motion. I therefore went to Sir Joseph Banks yesterday evening, who, I found, had seen all the correspondence, and, among the rest, my letter, and was consequently not only a competent judge of the general subject, but also completely informed as to the nature of your interference. I also spoke to Mr. N., whom, but for this purpose, perhaps, I might not soon have conversed with; and who acknowledged that my letter to him was an un-

equivocal declaration that you were not the original mover of the accusation against him.

Major Rennell, when he was here, mentioned a mistake in the critique: I think it was relating to Cadamosto: but I am not certain whether it was as to the year of the *Editio princeps*, or to some part of the Latin sentence there quoted, or, in fine, to what. You will make no use of this, till I can obtain more exact information.

I have only to request that, if any thing further occur on this subject, it may be referred to a personal interview; since doubts may be started on paper in a second, which would require hours to answer satisfactorily. I repeat that I shall omit no occasion of representing this transaction as justice and truth require it to be viewed, and that I am always fully sensible of your friendly exertions in repelling the calumnies, whether of N. or of any other person.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, Feb. 2nd, 1800.

The portraits came safe, and are very well executed. When the other parcel is sent, be so kind as desire Mr. Campbell to send it here by a porter, as there is some risk in the stage-coach.

I saw Mr. Ayscough of the Museum last week. The writing is difficult; and, after trying other

hands, he was forced to set about it himself. It will be finished this week, and I shall send it. I am to pay him one guinea, as it is a laborious little task. I in vain looked for the asterisk you mention in the original. Mr. A. thinks with me that it is autograph.

For the portraits: the finished Earl of Somerset is not the person wanted. He is some Englishman, temp. Car. II. Mr. Caldwall must well know from Pennant, that the sketch gives Car, the favorite of James I., a small-faced person. I before differed with this artist; because, for one that I wanted, he sent two that were not ordered, and pretended not to understand the plainest directions.

How can he dream that I want the fictitious Wallace? Pray forbid it.

He is right in doing the small picture of the Earl of Argyle in the great room, as well as that from the whole length, (both drawings.*)

General Lesly may be done (a *sketch*).

I suspect that our Douglas's are Germans. The cap, sword, &c. &c. are all of 1547; and the personages were no doubt contemporary with the painter. The *ætatis* 40 is oddly put. Is it the age of the personage or the painter?

William, Earl of Lothian.—The boy in the great room seems copied, instead of the man in the bed-

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* Remember that I also ordered Lord Lorn, 1630, (a drawing.) *Pinkerton.*

chamber, second floor. If so, Caldwall has again sported with the directions.

Marquis of *Argyle:* a curious portrait; but I do not observe the cast in the eye mentioned in your brother's letter. I hope Caldwall has not altered it.

I wish the artist would now send an exact list of all that he has in hand, that I may see if any be omitted.

LORD NAPIER* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Wilton Lodge, Hawick,
Feb. 12th, 1800.

On re-perusing your History of Scotland, I conceived you had committed a small error in note 2, page 191, of your first volume, in detailing the contents of the charter of the lands of Philde, granted by King James II. to my ancestor Alexander Napier, anno 1449. You there mention that those lands were in the king's hands by the forfeiture of Alexander Livingston, knight.

Having the original charter in my possession, I have looked into it, and find that the lands of Philde were forfeited by *Alexander Livingston, son of Alexander Livingston, knight,* and not by Sir Alexander himself. As you have another note in the same volume, page 203, where Livingston's forfeiture and my charter are referred to, I take

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* Francis, seventh Lord Napier.

the liberty of sending you a copy of the charter, as it really is; that you may have an opportunity of correcting those notes, in any subsequent edition of your History. In page 381 of your second volume, in note 6, you have taken notice of a charter to John Scott of Thirlestane, granting an addition to his arms, and the motto, "Ready, ay Ready," &c.

I am a male descendant of that John Scott, and in possession of the estate of Thirlestane. The addition to the arms, being a double Tressure of Fleurs de Lis, and the motto, "Ready, ay Ready," I now bear.

Amongst my family papers, there is a charter dated at Fala Moor, *July* 27th, 1542, from which Nisbet probably copied that which he has printed in his first volume, page 98. I have compared the two, and find them to agree. Till I read your History, and attended to the notes, I had no suspicion as to the authenticity of my charter. But, on examining it, I perceived that the superscription at the top, "James Rex," and the date, were the same hand-writing, and totally different from the writing in the body of the charter. It seemed to me an odd circumstance, that the king should have taken the trouble of filling up the date himself: I therefore compared his supposed signature with some other signatures of his in my possession; and I must confess that this to the charter 1542 has no resemblance to any of the rest. Indeed, all the others are written *James R.* not *James Rex.* From this circumstance, I must subscribe to your opinion, and doubt the

charter being genuine. It may have been a copy of the original charter, which may not have had the date; and the date may have been erroneously supplied by an ignorant person. As I only represent the second branch of the family of Thirlestane, the original charter may have remained with the elder branch; and, if so, is now probably irrecoverable, the elder branch having decayed, and fallen into obscurity.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

February 14th, 1800.

I enclose Caldwall's list of the unfinished drawings; in addition to which I shall order the two drawings from the head, and the full length of the Earl of Argyle, and the sketch of General Lesly, to-day.

I meant to have inserted the observations on Campbell, which were too late for the last month, in one of our magazines for this month; but I find it done to my hand in such a manner in the Critical Review, that the book is irretrievably damned. It never was read here, unless as a work of no authority; and the man himself is unknown to the public. I conceive that I am not a little indebted to the same article for a favorable intimation of my Detection of Ossian.

I shall be much obliged to you, if you will transcribe the original French of the first sentence

of Henry the Fourth's letter to the Duchess of Beaufort (*Walpoliana*, II. 108.), beginning, "*My heart*," if you have the rare book from which it is translated. It authenticates the initial French sentence of one of Mary's letters to Bothwell (misunderstood in Scotch) "Mon cœur, hélas!"

LORD NAPIER TO MR. PINKERTON.

Wilton Lodge, Hawick, February 24th, 1800.

You are at perfect liberty to print the charter, 1449, if you feel the smallest desire to do so. It would give me much satisfaction to have it in my power to furnish you with any useful information from my charter chests. Did not the distance between us prevent it, they should be open for your examination.

I have in my possession a three-quarter length portrait of my ancestor, John Napier, inventor of the Logarithms, which I presume is an undoubted original. Many years ago, I permitted Lord Buchan to copy it. The person he employed did so on a small scale. A print from that copy is affixed to the account of John Napier's Life and Writings, by Lord Buchan and Dr. Minto; but, since that time, my picture has been copied of the same size with the original, by Mr. Martin of Edinburgh, for the late General Christie; and I suppose is now in the hands of his son, Mr. Burton Christie, in London, where you may

possibly have an opportunity of seeing it. I have no acquaintance with the Christie family; so that I am not certain whether the general's son now lives in London or not.

There is a picture of John Napier in the Library of the College of Edinburgh, and an old print, engraved by Cooper (without a date), which I conceive to have been done from it. I have never seen the picture in the college; but the print very much resembles the picture in my possession.

I have likewise a drawing of my ancestor, from which a small print was taken in the last century. The first time I move to the southward, I will take it with me, and contrive to forward it to you; as possibly it may answer the purpose you wish. I regret that I cannot furnish you with any account of John Napier's habits, studies, or correspondence (in case it should be your intention to give a biographical sketch with the portraits you mean to publish), having no materials for that purpose remaining amongst my family papers.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, February 24th, 1800.

I received Hubert's confession safe; and, as I expected, it contains much more than Calderwood's abstract published by Goodal. It is a very curious paper; and, from the internal evidence, no doubt of the authenticity can remain. I should be happy to hear from Mr. Planta.

There is no such place as *Coryton** near Edinburgh, and Carreddan is fourteen miles from town. After every inquiry, I am convinced that it is a misprint for *Collington*, within four or five miles of Edinburgh, and surrounded with what Lightfoot called woods.

I shall ask Dr. Walker, Professor of Natural History, and minister at Collington, on his return to town, if the plants mentioned by Lightfoot are found there. I hear of no subscription for the Highlands, or Isles, to which Gibson can pay your very liberal donation. If you think the Douglas's genuine, but *unfit* for publication, I can dispose of them to Douglas of Cavers, who has already applied for copies of these drawings by Caldwall, with your permission. If you have no objection, Caldwall may be permitted to take other copies, on condition that Mr. Douglas communicates them to none.

An Archæological Dissertation, prefixed to a translation of Buchanan's Dialogue, by R. Macfarlane,† of which I gave you some intimation in London, has not, I hope, escaped your notice.

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* See p. 142.

† Robert Macfarlane, a political and miscellaneous Scotch writer, who died about twenty-five years ago, published *George Buchanan's Dialogue concerning the Rights of the Crown of Scotland. Translated into English, with two Dissertations prefixed; one Archæological, inquiring into the pretended identity of the Getes and Scythians, of the Getes and Goths, and of the Goths and Scots; and the other Historical, vindicating the character of Buchanan as an Historian, and containing some specimens of his Poetry in English verse.*—1801. 8vo.

It is not intitled to an answer; but it might deserve a review.

The red book of Clanronald's Bards is now in my hands, and appears to be a mere genealogy of the Macdonalds, written about the year 1727. I should be curious to know whether the Gaëlic manuscripts, quoted by Mr. Astle in his *Origin of Writing* (which are indisputably Irish), were obtained from Macpherson.

MR. VINCE* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Cambridge, March 6th, 1800.

Since I saw you in town, I have considered of a plan for the Introduction to your Geography,† of which the following are the outlines. The System of the World, with the Phænomena of the Planets, and their Phases; the Figures and Dimensions of the Earth; the Doctrine of the Sphere; the Length of the Year, and Procession of the Equi-

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* Rev. Samuel Vince, F.R.S. Plumian Professor of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy in the University of Cambridge, one of the most able mathematicians of the present day, and author of many works upon the subject.

† The First Edition of Mr. Pinkerton's Geography appeared in 1802; and it seems as if the idea was now quite fresh in his mind; for Messrs. Cadell and Davies, in a letter written five days after this from Mr. Vince, say, "We have considered the plan you were so good as to leave with us very attentively; and, as far as our judgment goes, we think it incapable of amendment."

noxes; the Motion and Phænomena of the Moon; Parallax and Refraction; on Eclipses and Occultations; on the Satellites; on Saturn's Ring; various Methods of finding the Latitude and Longitude of Places on the Earth's Surface; on the Tides; on the Trade Winds; on the Formation of Springs, and the Supply of Rivers; on the Variation and Dip of the Needle; on the Vibrations of Pendulums on different parts of the Earth's Surface; on the Barometer and Thermometer; on Comets; and on the Fixed Stars.

These subjects I shall enter pretty fully into; and, without entering into intricate mathematical investigations, I shall endeavor to treat them in such a manner as to render them easy to be understood by the generality of readers. Probably some other matters may occur in the course of the work. Some figures will be required, which may be cut in wood, and put into the pages. Having considered of the time it will take to collect and arrange the materials, and draw up the work, the terms which I propose are 100*l.* and a copy of the 600. If these meet with your approbation, I will get the work forward as fast as I can; and I trust that it will be done to your satisfaction.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, March 11th, 1800.

I received the chain, but do not think that it belongs to any order of knighthood. Do not forget Coryton Wood.

There can be no objection to Caldwall supplying Mr. Douglas of Cavers with drawings of the two portraits. But I should be obliged to you, if you will afterwards apply to Mr. Douglas, to learn if he has any portrait of our old Earl Douglas; and at the same time let him know, that I see no reason to infer with certainty that the portraits at Newbottle are of the Douglas family.

Many letters of Henry IV. to the Duchess of Beaufort begin with *Mon Cœur*, others *Mon cher Cœur*. The one you mentioned begins thus, "*Mon Cœur, j'ay receu ce matin à mon réveil de vos nouvelles: cela me rend,*" &c.

I hope to receive soon the rest of the portraits. I hope in the course of a few days to see Mr. Planta, when I shall recommend your business *vivâ voce*.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

March 25th, 1800.

A few years ago, "*Memoirs of the Life and Writings of the late Charles O'Conor*" were printed in Dublin, which, when ready for publication, it was thought prudent to suppress. The work, it is true, contains some curious historical facts, and some interesting particulars of the ancient Irish families; but it breathes the spirit of bigotry, broaches dangerous doctrines, and reflects with acrimony on the English settlers, and the Irish parliament, &c. Through the kindness

of a friend, I am indulged with the use of this publication for a few days. I have already run my eye through it, and found honorable mention of you, and some severe attacks on Ledwich and Campbell. I shall again give it a hasty perusal, and extract such passages as I may think you would be glad to see.

Page 255, among his (O'Conor's) Irish manuscripts, one of the most curious is a poem, attributed to King Alfred, who travelled through various districts of Ireland in the ninth century, and gave in this poem an account of what he saw.—Next, is the *Duan*, or Irish poem of 1056-1093. After enumerating several annals, we are told he possessed "the late Pretender's genealogy, in which several mistakes are proved to be committed, not only by the antiquarians of modern Scotland, but by those of Ireland also."

The *Rein Rioghruidhe*, containing catalogues of the monarchs of Ireland, from the Scotish conquest, and of the provincial kings from the days of St. Patrick.—In a note (p. 313), the biographer says: "That they were the progenitors of the Caledonian Scots, has been already shown by many writers, and so evidently by Mr. Pinkerton, that it is almost ridiculous, and even impertinent, to write after him on a subject which he has so plainly exhausted in his Scotland."

*Thorkelin's Fragments.** It appears from Mr. O'Conor's manuscript notes on this book, that, as

* *Fragments of English and Irish History*, by G. R. Thorkelin, London, 1788, 4to.

far as it relates to Ireland, the chronology is false and the narrative fabulous.

Warner's History * is enriched with manuscript notes by Mr. O'Conor, in one of which I find, that the silver seal of one of the kings of Connaught, which Warner says was sent as a present to King Charles I. by the Earl of Strafford, was the seal of Phelim O'Conor, the son of Charles the Red-handed. So much for Mr. O'Conor.—Now let us talk of other matters.

I have seen the first number of the *British Magazine*, and am much pleased with the plan. The great object seems to be the promotion of Oriental literature. I observed here and there the hand of our worthy and ingenious friend, Sir William Ouseley, particularly in the account of Mortimer's Island, an anecdote which I have heard him relate.

Of new publications, few as yet have reached me. Among others, which are now on their way to me, are Miss Starke's Travels, and the Life of my old acquaintance, Sixtus. Italian literature occupied much of my time this winter: I renewed my acquaintance with several of the swans of the Po and Arno, and read completely through the *Morgante Maggiore*. I am now reading with pleasure and profit "*La Ragion Poetica*,†" of which (with

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* *History of Ireland*, by Ferdinand Warner, LL.D. London, 1763. 2 vols. 4to.

† *Gravina, La Ragione Poetica*, an admirable work, now easily accessible to every English scholar, thanks to Mr. Mathias, to whom we are indebted for elegant editions of many

other scarce and curious books) Dr. Burney has had the goodness to lend me a copy.

The rough draught of my Essay on the Revival of the Drama in Italy is finished; and, if I be properly encouraged, I shall immediately set about a fair transcript of it. It is (whatever its faults may be) a much more perfect work than my Memoir; because:—first, from long reflection and a more intimate acquaintance with the Italian writers, I was enabled to take a more steady view of my subject:—secondly, because, through the kindness of my friends and the ardor of research, I possessed, and possess, I may say, almost every book necessary for my purpose. I have also done what my friends and the reviewers recommended: I have given translations of all my quotations in the text, as well prose as verse.

I shall not presume to ask you how you are employed; but allow me to express a hope that you are not idle. The times are so unfavorable to literary undertakings, that there are, I believe, few works of importance in the press; but it does not follow that there may not be many on the anvil.

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others of the most esteemed Italian classics. In former letters, Mr. Walker has spoken of Elegies by Gravina, of which I no where find mention; not even in the works of his scholar, Metastasio, who is loud and diffuse in the praise of his old master and benefactor. Gravina was an eminent lawyer, and, besides his poetics, has left a standard work, *De Ortu et Progressu Juris Civilis*, which has passed through many editions, and still holds the highest character.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, April 6th, 1800.

The portraits are not yet come to hand, which I rather wonder at; but perhaps Mr. Campbell expects that I should send for them.

If you have rightly stated Mr. Caldwall's ideas, they seem to me rather Irish. It is not my fault that he works slowly; and I have myself many mouths to feed; so that I cannot afford to pay an artist more than he really gains. It will be three or four years before I make any use of his drawings, if I ever use them at all; and a London publisher, far from making any addition, would rather be inclined to think them too high priced.

Lady Ancram, in her letter to me, recommended two portraits, one or both of which have been copied; and I think it might be said, in general terms, that those which she has recommended have been already done; for it would be absolutely impossible for me to think of injuring the work by uninteresting sacrifices to family pride. But, on the other hand, as her ladyship has been extremely polite, if she only claim admission for one or two of her favorites, we must show her that the gallantry of chivalry is not wholly extinct. I leave this to your own prudence; but you can state to her the expense already incurred; and I beg you will on no account pledge me for the appearance of such portraits as she may select.

I cannot help smiling at your formal enumeration of the Earl of Buchan's promises. That peer has so often deluded me in this way, that I beg to hear no more of them. If he send any thing, good.*

I wish, however, you would apply for the Cardinal Beaton in Fifeshire; as the portrait is singularly interesting: I hope it is genuine;—a consideration which renews my wonder at Caldwall's expectations, when I am in fact paying for several drawings absolutely useless to me or to any publisher, because they are not authentic.

Your botanic professor could, I suppose, inform me at once what place is meant by *Coryton*, a name which occurs in Lightfoot† about a dozen times. Mr. Walker quite mistakes my meaning, which neither relates to the plants nor the etymon, but solely to the situation of the place, or rather what could be intended.

I have not had time to look into M'Farlane's preface; but, if he meant any thing serious, he ought to have written a work on the subject; for castles cannot be destroyed by pop-guns; and, before he proves that Europe is Celtic, he must prove that all Europe speaks Irish. I suppose I shall not distinguish him by any particular favor,

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* How very sad is this remark, after all the active and disinterested kindness which had been shown to Mr. Pinkerton by Lord Buchan; a kindness very little deserved by any similar conduct on his part, or even by common courtesy in his letters to that peer!

† *Flora Scotica.*

but pass his book in silence, as I have done ten or twelve others of at least equal consequence.

I am impatient to see your History, and am glad to hear that the Appendix is in the press.

At your convenience, I should be obliged to you if you would look at the monuments of the Seton family in Seton; and, if the faces be well preserved, order drawings to be taken.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

April 6th, 1800.

I hope the ten portraits sent last have arrived safe. I enclose a list of some from the catalogue of portraits at Yester, omitting the more recent ones by Sir G. Kneller and Medina;* and a list of pictures at Panmure, hastily taken by Dr. Gillies'

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* Although the name of Medina is now but little known in the annals of painting, this artist was considered of sufficient importance in his time to have been invited into Scotland by the Earl of Leven, under an engagement that he would procure him a subscription of 500*l.* worth of business. During his residence there, he was knighted by the Duke of Queensberry; and such was the patronage he received that he never returned to Brussels, whence he came, but died at Edinburgh, and was buried in the church-yard of the Grey Friars of that city in 1711. He was of a Spanish family who had settled in the Low Countries, where he was a scholar of Francis Du Chatel, but endeavored to form his style by studying the works of Rubens. Lord Orford, in his *Anecdotes of Painting* (*Works*, III. p. 375,) has given a portrait of Medina and an account of his life.

brother. To-morrow I shall send the catalogue of those at Tynningham, of no great value.

As Caldwall must have soon done at Newbottle, you will consider where or on what subjects he should be next employed. Let me know also whether to employ Carfrae, the young man whom Lord Buchan recommended, in doing a portrait here, Pitcairn's for instance, to be sent up as a specimen. My own opinion is, that Caldwall might be employed here or at Yester, and recommended to those who offer portraits gratis, and that Carfrae, if he answers Lord Buchan's recommendation, as he is a young man and works expeditiously, might be sent at a cheaper rate, to take scattered portraits in the North, or in the neighbourhood of Dryburgh.

Mr. G. Chalmers transmitted to the late Mr. Robertson, minister of Dalmeny, author of the History of Mary Queen of Scots, 1793, a copy of an *English* translation, found in the Paper-Office, of Mary's long letter to Bothwell from Glasgow, different from the *Scotish* translation which was published. I have received it from Robertson's relations,..and have written to Mr. Chalmers, to know what part of it was marked with Cecil or Elizabeth's hand, but have got no answer. It was considered by him and Robertson as an indisputable proof of the forgery. To me it appears an incontestable proof of the authenticity of the letters; as it and the Scotish are evidently two different versions from the same original. If you could procure from Mr. Astle any information concerning the original in the Paper-Office, I

would transmit by the first opportunity a copy of the version, with a few queries, to be laid previously before him. I would add a short remark, which I intend to publish, on the specimens of Erse manuscripts in his Essay on Writing, which are indisputably Irish manuscripts brought to the Highlands.

Portraits formerly at Pinkie House, now at Yester, the Marquis of Tweedale's.

Alexander Henderson, by Vandyke.
Two pictures of Gentlemen, one in armor, by Jameson.
Earl of Tweedale, three-quarters, by G. S.
Earl of Kinnoul, half.
G. Buchanan, upon wood.
Lord Marchington (Mersington, I suspect, a Lord of Session at the Revolution.)—See *Balcarras's Mem.*
Prince Henry, at length, when a child.
Countess of Dunfermline, half; very curious, by F. Zucchero.
Dame Isabel Hamilton, Lady Seton, on wood, 1589.
Earl of Dunfermline, at length, by Vandyke.
Lord Chancellor Seton, half; by F. Zucchero.
Lord Seton, upon wood, æt. 27; an. 1558.
Countess and Earl of Roxburgh, two portraits, by Kneller.
Countess of Lauderdale, by Lely.
Duke of Lauderdale, by Lely.
Countess of Cassilis, by Mic. Wright, 1662.
Lady Erskine, by Lely.
Earl of Errol, by Cornelius Jansen.
Earl of Buccleuch, in armor.
First Marquis of Tweedale, by Lely.
Lady J. S. when young, afterwards Lady Tweedale, on wood.
Countess of Tweedale.
Earl of Tweedale.
Lady Grizzle Lesly, Countess of Dunfermline.
Old Earl of Buccleuch.

Second Marquis of Tweedale, by Soest.
Earl of Buccleuch, half, in armor.

The above list is taken from an old catalogue, 1739, of the pictures at Pinkie House, now removed to Yester.

At Duplin, two portraits of Chancellor Kinnoul. —At Wishaw, Lord Belhaven's, a portrait of Sir James Balfour.—A portrait of Napier of Merchiston, in the possession of Mr. John Napier of Braes, Stirlingshire. (This information from Lord Buchan.)

Pictures at Panmure.

Charles I.
Charles II.
Katharine, Queen to Charles II.
Duke of Monmouth.
Archibald, Duke of Argyle.
Duchess of Cleveland.
Duke d'Aumont.
Marquis of Lothian.
Earl of Mar.
James, Earl of Panmure.
Margaret, Countess of Panmure.
Chancellor Loudoun.
Harry Maule of Kelly, Esq.
His first Lady.
His eldest Son.
Earl Marischal.
Patrick, Earl of Panmure.
William, Earl of Panmure.
Patrick, Earl of Panmure.
General Sinclair.
Second George, Earl of Panmure.
Duke of Hamilton.
Duchess of Hamilton.
Earl of Wigton.
Mr. Charles Fleming.
Prince Rupert.
Duke of Ormond.
James VI.
William, Earl of Panmure.
Duke of Buckingham.
Doctor Garth.
Mrs. Garrick.

Staircase.

Charles XII.
James VII.
Charles I.'s Queen.
Duke of Newcastle.
Sir Percival Hart.
Charles, Earl of Marr.
William, Duke of Hamilton.
Duchess of Hamilton.
James, Earl of Panmure.

Margaret, Countess of Panmure.
Mr. Harry Maule, of Kelly.
Earl of Strathmore.
Countess of Strathmore.
Marquis of Montrose.
Sir Edward Stanhope, of Grimston.
George, Earl of Panmure.
Jean, Countess of Panmure.
James, Duke of Hamilton.
William, Duke of Hamilton.
Henry, Prince of Wales.
James, Earl of Loudoun.
John, Earl of Balmerino.
Frances, Countess of Panmure.
Patrick, Earl of Panmure.
Lady Margaret.*
Mary, Countess of Panmure.
Mr. Harry Maule, of Kelly.
Mary, Countess of Marr.
James, Earl of Panmure.
William, Earl of Dalhousie.
William Master Ramsay.
Lady Margaret Maule.
John, Earl of Wigton.
Colonel Henry Maule.
Elizabeth, Countess of Kinghorn.
Jean, Countess of Northesk.
Mary, Countess of Panmure.
Infanta of Spain.
Alexander Henderson.
John Knox.

DR. AIKIN TO MR. PINKERTON.

April 8th, 1800.

There is no doubt that the *peculiar* botany of such a country as Scotland might very well be contained in a few pages, at length sufficient for any useful purpose. Lightfoot's *Flora Scotica**

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* I am glad of the opportunity thus afforded me of saying a few words upon the subject of this book, which does not appear to me to have by any means received the meed of praise that it is most fairly entitled to. Of course I am aware that it is in a great measure a compilation; and so of necessity must every work be, whose object is to describe what has been repeatedly described before by preceding writers. The utmost that can in such case be required of an author is, to verify by

has no great number of species that are not met with also in England, and other countries of the same latitude; and, though he has dwelt pretty largely on the economical uses of plants, I think all the important matter might be reduced to a small compass. I shall deliver your obliging message to my son. He could give you further information on the subject of your inquiry. I am glad to hear of your amended health.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, April 10th, 1800.

The portraits are not yet arrived, and I begin to be rather anxious about them.

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his own observation whatever he commits to the press, and fairly to own the sources whence he derived his materials; inserting, at the same time, and rejecting, as appears to him necessary. In my opinion, Mr. Lightfoot selected with great judgment, and arranged with great neatness, and wrote his descriptions with exceeding clearness. His work is also full of varied information; and his figures, which are numerous, are excellent. When new subjects are before him, of which there is a considerable proportion in the class *Cryptogamia*, he is singularly luminous in describing the plants, and happy in pointing out their most striking characteristics. The "Sketch of Caledonian Zoology, composed by Mr. Pennant, and prefixed for the benefit of those naturalists who wish to be acquainted with the animals of North Britain," accompanied, as it is, with plates, gives a new feature to the work and great value. In short, there may be local Floras better than the *Flora Scotica*, and there may be many equal to it; but, in my opinion, it will always rank among the best.

Mr. Campbell has changed his residence from Prince's Court to No. 1, James Street, Adelphi. I hope this circumstance has not embarrassed the delivery.

I shall look into the lists at my leisure, and point out such as may be worth copying; but there is no hurry in the matter. Mr. Carfrae may, in the mean time, copy the portrait of Pitcairn, as you hint, in Indian ink, at one guinea. A most ingenious draughtsman here speaks of visiting Scotland this summer, for the purpose of drawing English and Scotch portraits. I shall trouble you with a line in his favor. I shall write to Mr. Astle to inquire, in the first place, if he be at leisure to attend to the questions you mention, and hope to hear from you in course concerning the portraits.

MR. JOHN ROSS TO MR. PINKERTON.

Main, by Elgin, April 16th, 1800.

I had the honor to receive your letter of 6th October, 1799, and transmitted a copy of it to Lord Findlater, now in Saxony; but, owing to the long detention of the German mails, I received his answer only a few days ago, in which he desires that the portraits of Dame Marian Livingston and of Jameson the painter may be sent to London, in order to get drawings made of them at his lordship's expense. I have therefore ordered the two portraits to be carefully packed up and sent to

London by the first opportunity, to the care of Mr. James Maclellan, grocer in Wigmore Street, Cavendish Square, with instructions to him to inform you when they come to his hand, that you may point out a proper person for making drawings from them, for which Mr. Maclellan will pay.

The dress in which Dame Marian Livingston is painted, was preserved at Cullen House till March, 1746, when the house was plundered by the rebels. Mr. Professor Ogilvie* will furnish you with some anecdotes of the lady and of her husband, Sir James Ogilvie of Cardel,† who was long in the service of Queen Mary, as steward of the household. You will perceive that Jameson intended to transmit himself to posterity, not only as a portrait painter, but also as a historical and landscape painter. Charles I. and his Queen are among the portraits in his shop.‡ When he was painting the king's portrait, his Majesty, observing that his

* Mr. Ogilvie, in his letter upon this subject, which I have not thought necessary to print, confines his information to the bare fact, that the lady's husband seemed to have enjoyed a very high degree of Mary's confidence at the time of her leaving France; for that he was sent over with commission to treat on her behalf with the estates of her realm, and of other matters, and had returned before she set out.

† See *Douglas's Peerage*, p. 261.

‡ The picture here particularly alluded to seems to be the same as is mentioned by Lord Orford; who, speaking of the works of this artist in the possession of his great-grandson, Mr. John Alexander, limner at Edinburgh, says, "there is one of himself in his school, with sketches both of history and landscape, and with portraits of Charles I., his queen, Jameson's wife, and four others of his works from the life."—*Works*, III. p. 232.

eyes were weak or sore, ordered him to put on his hat, which he always wore afterwards when he was painting. I do not know the other portraits in the shop; but they must have been those of people of eminence at that time.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, April 18th, 1800.

When I wrote last, I did not imagine that I should have had occasion to apply to you for information from Mr. Astle, concerning any papers in the Paper-Office relative to Queen Mary. The annexed note from Anderson's Manuscript Collections, which I have since examined, will explain the importance of the papers to which it refers. If an order from a Secretary of State is necessary to procure copies from the Paper-Office, I believe I could obtain one from Mr. Dundas. In the mean time, your recommendation of the annexed note to Mr. Astle will be particularly useful.

Among Anderson's papers, I discover one or two relative to your History, which I will either transmit, or procure copies of them for you, as the possessor of his papers shall permit. I have not examined whether they are of importance or not; but they will be sent with the three remaining portraits.

From Anderson's Notes of Papers in the Paper Office —Book, Scotland, Letters to Queen Elizabeth, 1571 *to* 1603.

In this book are several Letters and Papers before 1571: among them letters from Queen Mary to Queen Elizabeth and to Secretary Cecil in 1568, 1569, and 1570. There is also to be found there, near the end, in p. 507, &c., the long letter from Glasgow sent by Queen Mary to Bothwell in English, marked with Cecil's hand, and the Letters A A p. 519: another of these letters in English "depesched by Margaret Carwood;" and the same in French marked with Cecil's hand (4).

N. B. The first letter of which I have a copy is an English version, different from the Scotch in Buchanan's Detection, but translated, apparently, from the same French original. I apprehend that the second must be the letter concerning Margaret Carwood's departure, beginning "*Mon Cœur, hélas! faut-il que la folie d'une femme,*" &c. If so, this letter in French and English must be still more important than the former, to determine the much-disputed question, whether the letters were forged in Scotch and translated into French, or translated into Scotch from a French original. A copy therefore both of the French and English is particularly desirable.

In the Book, from 1558 to 1568, is Bothwell's trial, fol. 607, and the attainder in parliament against him and others, 20th December, 1567, fol. 623.

N. B. The only important circumstance to be

discovered from this copy of Bothwell's trial is, whether Robert Pitcairn, commendator of Dunfermline, the Lord Lindsay of the Byres, Mr. James Macgill and Mr. Henry Bulneaves, Lords of Session, are mentioned as assessors to the Earl of Argyle, Justice General on that trial.

Bundle, Scotland, without dates, B.

E. Copy short letter from G. C. to Bothwell.

Bundle F. *without date.*

French sonnet by Queen Mary to her son the Prince.

N. B. As the papers relative to Scotland were formerly kept in a large chest, these bundles without dates may be difficult to be found. The sonnet is only important to compare with Mary's sonnets to Bothwell.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, April 19th, 1800.

The drawings came safe to hand, and seem well done. The three old kings are manifest inventions; but I have at least the certainty that they are so. Beaton is very curious and interesting; and I have no doubt that it is genuine. Lady Ancram should lodge it in one of the best apartments, but not in her own bed-chamber; for he was a very roguish ecclesiastic. I believe it would be right I should by and by inclose to you a solemn letter of thanks to her ladyship for her politeness.

I have no faith in your Beaton from the Vatican. It is probable a real portrait may exist at Mr. Beaton's in Fifeshire. Is George Baillie of Jerviswood, at Lord Haddington's, the patriot? if so, I want him much. There are two in Dalkeith Palace, can you get at them? Do you know Mr. Bruce of Arnot, who has got three?

Your idea of getting catalogues of the portraits is a good one, as it prevents misintelligence; and I shall be much obliged to you for a continuation of such authentic intelligence.

I have sent your note to Mr. Astle; and, if he make any remark, shall transmit it to you. He has informed me that Mr. Bruce is now the only person to apply to at the State Paper Office.

I have corrected the Gowrie conspiracy to-day, and see no objection to your title.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, April 22d, 1800.

I have just been favored with a letter from Mr. Astle, returning the note that you sent, with the following observation:

"All that I can collect concerning the Gaëlic and Irish manuscripts mentioned by me in my *Origin and Progress of Writing*, will be found in that work from p. 123 to p. 138, which Mr. Laing may make any use of which he may think proper."

I have this moment received yours with the ex-

tracts from Anderson's papers; but my last will show you that Mr. Astle can do nothing in the business. I shall be glad to see the notes you mention. I infer from yours that Anderson is dead.

I should be obliged to you if you could assist me in procuring a few specimens of Scotch minerals, as granite, basalt, &c. Your friend, Dr. Walker, would be the best person to advise you. If he consent, I shall send you a little note of what I want.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, May 4th, 1800.

I have yours of the 29th ult. I had not the smallest idea that the author of the Diplomata had been so long in existence, and shall be glad to see his remarks on my book, whatever they be.

If you know Mr. Bruce of Arnot, I wish you would get Caldwall to take a sketch of Bruce the architect. I need not add that Mr. Gibson will repay you your money when you please.

I shall be very glad to see you here this month, as you mention; but I am sorry you mean to fly to the Orkneys so soon. When you do go there, pray pick me up some mineral curiosities, granites, &c. &c.: your brother will point out the most remarkable. I look upon it as a fortunate circumstance that he should be also a collector and a

proprietor of mines. Be so good as present my best compliments, and tell him I long to have some mineralogic correspondence with him. Is it your brother Gilbert, who sent me the intelligent letter about the portraits?

A Mr. Brown, a collector and dealer in minerals, going to Scotland, I gave him a line to you. As he is the proprietor of some mines in Derbyshire, he may perhaps make some curious discoveries in Scotland, and all I wish is, that he may be enabled to pursue his own inquiries. As you know that connoisseurs have no conscience, don't let your brother put any thing for me into his hands; for the specimens might be changed for inferior samples. If your brother could send a little box by a Berwick smack, of any thing he thinks curious, I should be much obliged to him. The subjects he knows better than I; but if he wish it, I shall send him a little list.

DR. TOWNSON* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Lydleys Hayes, near Salop,
May 20th, 1800.

I cannot consider your letter but as a very

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* Robert Townson, LL.D. author of *Travels in Hungary*, the *Philosophy of Mineralogy*, &c. He died a very few years ago in New South Wales, where he had retired to devote himself to agriculture, which he cultivated upon a very extensive scale.

flattering compliment, and am extremely sorry I cannot give you any information on the subject of it. It relates to the chemical analysis of lapis lazuli, a fossil I never analysed; and I must add, I have neither my books nor my fossils here.

I was informed, a year or two ago, that the celebrated Mr. Klaproth was preparing some new system of mineralogy, founded upon his own analyses. I am very ignorant of every thing that has passed in science for these last two or three years. Notwithstanding that I am not engaged at present in studies of this kind, I shall be very happy to hear of the progress of mineralogical science; and I take the liberty to mention, that I hope, in your intended work, you will copy the writings of that celebrated classifier of natural bodies, Linnæus, and give us the characters of the classes, orders, and genera, as he has done in all his works. In my humble opinion, you cannot have a better model than the system of Mineralogy edited by Professor Gmelin, and which is one volume of the last edition of the *Systema Naturæ*.

The task, Sir, you are undertaking is a very difficult one. It is the labor of years, and can never be executed but by those who have much time to bestow upon it, and access to great collections. I sincerely wish success to your endeavors, and fame as its consequence.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, May 24th, 1800.

Inclosed is the list you desired for your brother, and which I shall take it as a great favor if he will attend to at his leisure.

I am sorry that you are not yourself a little skilled in mineralogy, a science not only amusing but instructive. It has long since been known upon the continent, and now begins to be understood in England, that the mineralogy of any country ranks next to its agriculture. As many parts of Scotland cannot boast of a fertile soil, it is to be hoped that mineral treasures might be found to balance that disadvantage; so that this science should meet with particular attention from the Scotish patriot.

You will find it a pleasant relief from graver studies, and entertaining to you in your travels. If you wish for a short and easy introduction, let me recommend to you Dr. Townson's recent volume, *The Philosophy of Mineralogy*,* which will disclose to you the nature and advantages of the science. After this, you may proceed to Mr. Kirwan's *Elements*,† 2 vols. 8vo, which may perhaps supply you

* The *Philosophy of Mineralogy*. London, 1798, 8vo.

† *Elements of Mineralogy, by Robert Kirwan, Esq.* first published at London, 1784, in 1 vol. 8vo; afterwards, a second edition with considerable additions and improvements, at London and Dublin, 1794, in 2 volumes.

with all the information you will ever want. Remember, that if you discover a silver mine on your estates in the Orkneys you must give me a share.

When you go to the Orkneys, be so good as get me a piece of lead ore from the mine in the parish of Hoy. I have really little information concerning the mineral productions of the Orkneys. It is a surprising omission in Sir John Sinclair's Statistic Survey, that the mineralogy (perhaps the most important part in such a country as Scotland, abounding with mountains,) should have been almost totally omitted; while it ought to have been branched into about twenty questions. The new earth of Strontian is now talked of all over Europe; yet all we know of Strontian from his book is, that there is an alehouse there!

I have looked into Wallace on the Orkneys, and find that he mentions:—1st, some veins of marble and alabaster at Buckquoy and Swinna, not far from Birsa, in the Mainland:—2. At the west end of the Mainland, near Skeall, on the top of high rocks, a red clay with reddish figured stones, which he engraves. Be so good as to get me some of the clay and a great variety of the stones; and specimens of the marble and alabaster.

I should like to have some specimens from Strathnaver, of granite, &c. Mr. Jameson, who has written on the mineralogy of the Shetland islands, can, I dare say, inform you with regard to the Orkneys. I must leave the rest to his information, or that of other curious persons, as you mention. The clergyman, who is writing a pro-

vincial History of the Orkneys,* should know a little of mineralogy; and you had better lend him the books that I mention. Any assistance that I can render to him in the antiquarian line he may freely command. In my *Inquiry into the History of Scotland*, vol. ii. p. 297, seq., he will find an outline of the history of the Orkneys. The next object is, to take the Orcades of Torfæus and make a chronological abridgment of them: (that by Lowe is completely erroneous.) The succession of earls, and the leading dates, may be found in my *Inquiry*, vol. ii. p. 347. This abridgment should be arranged in a brief chronological manner, only noticing the chief events, such as battles, &c., and the precise spots where they happened, either in the Orkneys or on the oposite shore; and it will form a clue to many ancient monuments, &c., now unknown or misunderstood. If he consult me at any time, I shall always answer his inquiries with pleasure.

I am impatient to see your own History, and hope the delay will not be long.

You did very right with regard to Pitcairn's portrait: I hope you will see the others sent before you go to the Orkneys.

As the firm is "Brown and Mawe," I made a

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* Mr. Pinkerton alludes, I presume, to the *History of the Orkney Islands, in which is comprehended an account of their present, as well as their ancient state; together with the advantages they possess for several branches of Industry, and the means by which they may be improved.* By the Rev. *George Barry*, D.D., which was published in a quarto volume in 1805, shortly after the death of the author.

mistake in the person I recommended. It is Mr. Mawe, who is going to Scotland in a week. As he speaks of Caithness, perhaps you may see him in the Orkneys. Mr. Mawe is an expert mineralogist; and it would be worth while to get him to examine any appearance of metals in the Orkneys. I wish you a pleasant voyage and a happy return. Do write to me from the Orkneys concerning the minerals, &c.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

May 29th, 1800.

I am duly favored with yours of the 16th inst. Your list now lies before Mr. Kirwan. My friend, Captain Ouseley, whom I shortly expect in town, shall be made acquainted with your wishes. I am sure he would have much pleasure in serving you. It will, I fear, not be easy to procure a copy of Dr. Beaufort's Memoir.* However, I have written to him on the subject, and expect his answer in the course of a few days. In the mean time I shall have an inquiry made after the Memoir in Dublin.

From the works of Burns I expect to derive much pleasure, and from the preliminary matter

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* *Memoir of a Map of Ireland, illustrating the Topography of the Kingdom, and containing a short account of its present state, civil and ecclesiastical, with a complete Index to the Map, by Daniel Augustus Beaufort, L. L. D. Rector of Navan.*—Dublin, 1792, 4to.

much information. From the intimacy which subsists between Dr. Currie and Mr. Roscoe, I presume the latter has lent his aid: however, I believe Dr. Currie to be fully competent to the undertaking.

Our friend, the Bishop of Dromore, is now in England. His nephew, he informs me, will shortly publish his edition of Surrey. The series of Poems written in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, containing specimens of blank verse, will be a valuable addition.

Have you seen "*The Pleasures of Hope?*" When the age of the author is considered, it must be allowed to be a most extraordinary production.

Mr. Leyden's Sketch of the Discoveries in Africa amused me exceedingly. It is the essence of many large works, which are difficult to procure and sometimes irksome to read. I should suppose, however, that the publications of Mr. Park and your friend Mr. Browne must be highly interesting. Have you seen the last volume of our Transactions? It is almost entirely confined to Science, and contains some curious papers.

I have communicated your query respecting our mountains to my geographical friends. I wish you were now looking with me at two sublime mountains that are visible from the windows of my library.

I am extremely obliged by your kind offer of assistance in regard to my new work. It was in consequence of your hint and that of the reviewers that I undertook it; and I have been so uncommonly fortunate in regard to materials

that I have hardly to regret the want of a single book absolutely necessary for my purpose. It ought therefore to have fewer imperfections than my *Memoir*, and perhaps be more curious and not less interesting; if my Memoir can be said to be in the least degree either the one or the other. Had the same materials fallen into better hands, you might have ventured to recommend the work to any publisher of your acquaintance; but if you should suppose, from your knowledge of the author, that it would be in any degree deserving the notice of the public, you would oblige me extremely by obtaining for me such terms as you may think I ought to accept of. As the fair copy is not yet finished, I cannot say with certainty the number of (quarto) pages to which it may extend: perhaps 210 or 250. With the nature of the work you are acquainted. I shall therefore only add, that, in order to render it acceptable to the mere English readers, all the quotations in the text are translated. Before you do any thing decisive in this business, have the goodness to ask Sir William Ouseley whether he has taken any step in regard to it, as I wrote to him on the subject.

DR. TOWNSON TO MR. PINKERTON.

Lydley's Hayes, near Salop,
June 8th, 1800.

I shall be very glad to see your intended arrangement, however circumscribed the plan may

be; and if I could get at my specimens, the *saxum metalliferum* should be sent to you; but the greatest part of my collection is in Scotland.

In regard to the fossil, I need only *remind* you of what you must know already, that great masses and hills of porphyry are seldom uniform in their nature and texture: hence, from the same range of rocks, specimens may be collected considerably different from each other; and hence, probably, the difference in the descriptions of the *saxum metalliferum*. You ask my opinion of it: I have, no doubt, mentioned it in my *Travels through Hungary*,* which I think you informed me in your first letter you had seen. I have not my Travels by me, and I know not what I have said; but, as I had then the subject before me, or fresh in my memory, whatever I have said I can rely on more than on my present recollection. You know that the *nebengestein* in mines almost always differs from the other part of the rock, and is more or less in a state of decomposition; and this decomposition, according to its stages, destroys its characteristics. If you have seen Werner, *Von der Entstehung der Gänge*, you will see that he has his suspicions that these mines are in beds and not in veins.

Wacké and basalt, I recollect, are common in this district, and contain feldspar and hornblende; hence porphyries with these bases. You may, I think, safely reject Lamétrie's opinion, if he says it is a *rose-colored jasper* spotted with feldspar,

* See p. 432 of that work.

and as safely that which gives it as a base of feldspar. The *safest* opinion is Mr. Kirwan's, as you say he calls the base *clay*, as very general and vague. It is probably a decomposed wacké with hornblende, feldspar, &c. Have you examined the Dissertation on the Gebirge Arten in the little Bergmann[n] Kalender for 1770, by Hofman, and Werner's classification of the Gebirge Arten?

I must again remind you I have no books of science here; and, since my disappointment in *my projected Survey of India*, I have turned my attention to other branches of knowledge; and three or four years of neglect make sad ravages in all our mental acquisitions. Concerning cabinets, I think you will find some information in some of the volumes of the *Amœnitates Academicæ*, and in D'Argenville. Alas! for mineralogical science, specimens in collections are scarce ever named.

I am sorry, Sir, that, for the reasons just stated, I can give you so little information.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, June 21st, 1800.

I have just received information from Portsoy, that there is a neat plan of that town and of the adjacent fields in Cullen House; but that no view of the place or engraving of the plan was ever taken. The plan was merely made for convenience in letting Lord Findlater's farms.

I sent Walker's book to Gibson; but, as I have just returned from a journey, I know not whether he has transmitted it to you. My brother has not yet arranged the minerals he procured for you at Wanloch-head, but will write to you when they can be sent. I inclose Caldwall's account. The additional guinea on each of the two Douglas's I was obliged to allow him when he began to do them, on account of the additional work they required. I inclose also Johnson's sketch of James III. I have not yet obtained permission to copy Bruce the architect's portrait, from the proprietor's absence from town.

A letter of thanks to Lady Ancram will be highly acceptable and gratifying to her ladyship. The Marquis of Lothian's father gave me the inclosed copy of a letter * to transmit to you, relative to a portrait in your last gallery. I forget if I ever mentioned that Caldwall has drawings of G. Heriot, and Ayton the architect, to dispose of, at the usual price.

I desired a copy of my History to be sent to you before publication, which I hope you have received. You will perceive in a variety of passages, how much I have been indebted to your hints and writings; and, had I been so near as to consult you occasionally, I am convinced that the work might have been far more perfect. In the Dissertation on Ossian, particularly, I am conscious of more obligations than, I am afraid, I have pro-

* This copy has not been preserved by Mr. Pinkerton in his correspondence.

perly acknowledged; for I was indebted to your *Introduction*, even for my conversion. I have availed myself imperfectly of your observations on Rhyme, but not of your anecdotes concerning Macpherson, which I found it difficult to interweave into the work. If the controversy revives, they might be inserted with advantage in the Monthly Magazine, where your *Walpoliana* first appeared, which are esteemed here the very best of our *ana's*. In the progress of the controversy, the particular circumstances that gave birth to Ossian must appear. I have discovered, but am not yet at liberty to reveal them; but Dr. Lorimer's anecdote comes near to the truth.*

I shall remain here till July the 12th, and leave directions for the *Complaint of Scotland* to be transmitted to you when published. It will be out in six weeks,† with a glossary by Leyden, a promising young man. As to the minerals in Orkney, I am afraid that Wallace's alabaster is like the carbuncle in Hoy, a mere report adopted without examination. I shall procure, with the assistance of others, what specimens I can.

There are two papers in the Cottonian Library,

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* See p. 91.

† This work does not appear to have been published till four years subsequently to the date of this letter. It was accompanied by a preliminary Dissertation and Glossary by Dr. Leyden, the same gentleman who published the *Historical and Philosophical sketch of the Discoveries and Settlements of the Europeans in Northern and Western Africa, at the close of the Eighteenth Century*, mentioned in Mr. Walker's letter of May 29, 1800.

of which I shall be obliged to you to procure copies, if they can be easily transcribed. The first is *Carmina Italica et Gallica scripta per S. Reginam ad Angliæ Reginam* (Caligula, B. 5. I cannot specify the folio, but they follow copies of verses by Buchanan and others). The second is a bitter invective against the Queen of Scots in the Bishop of Ross's hand-writing. (Caligula, c. 2, fol. 420.) The librarian, or person who transcribes it, can determine first if it is in Lesley's hand: if not, it need not be transcribed.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, June 28th, 1800.

I am duly favored with your last, and am sorry you have had some fruitless trouble from my having been too brief in what I mentioned concerning Portsoy. The thing wanted is a private print engraved from a drawing by some captain or colonel in the neighborhood, and representing the *mineral strata* around Portsoy.

The additional guineas on Caldwall's Douglas's are oddly unlucky; as the drawings are good for nothing. As Mr. Gardiner is gone to Scotland to draw portraits, I shall enter into no further expense for the present. I recommended to Gardiner to call upon you; and you will be so good as point out any thing worthy of his attention. I shall attend to the Cotton Papers, the first time I

go to the British Museum. Mr. Mawe, the mineralogist, whom I recommended under the mistaken name of Brown, talks of going to the north of Scotland and the Orkneys, where perhaps he may find you. As to alabaster, it is one of the commonest substances, and is only curious from the place where it is found. All Spain may be said to be alabaster; and there is a large hill of it near Paris.

I have written a letter of thanks to Lady Ancram. I am very much indebted to your brother for his trouble, and shall highly value his present and future correspondence on the subject. I wish he would write to me without waiting for the arrangement; as perhaps I can render him some little service in London in that line. Walker's book has not yet come to hand. Who is Mr. Leyden? I believe he is also the author of a little work concerning Africa, which has considerable merit.

I shall write to you at length concerning your book, when I have time to give it a leisurely perusal.

MR. A. F. TYTLER TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, July 1st, 1800.

I have this day seen, for the first time, the new edition of Ramsay's Poems;* prefixed to which

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* The edition of Allan Ramsay's Poems here alluded to is

are remarks on the genius and writings of Ramsay, which I wrote, in consequence of an earnest request of the publishers, Messrs. Cadell and Davies, who wanted something of prefatory matter for their edition. They have obtained from a different hand *an Account of the Life of Ramsay*, in which I see several unfavorable reflections and allusions to your opinions respecting the merits of Ramsay as a poet; and I observe, in the introductory advertisement, an ambiguous intimation, which (though perhaps not so meant) would lead the reader to suppose that the Life of Ramsay and the Remarks on his Writings are the production of the same pen.

Against a supposition of this kind I am particularly desirous of justifying myself to you: because, however widely different our opinions may be with regard to the merits of Ramsay, I think too highly of your general talents, and have indeed profited too deeply by your various literary labors, particularly those of an historical nature, to treat their author any otherwise than with the respect and politeness due to extensive learning, genius, and ability. In matters of taste there will ever be difference of opinion; because, in such matters, there is no other criterion of rectitude than individual feeling.

Confining my attention chiefly to professional labors, I do not wish to be known as the writer

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that which was published in London, in 1800, in 2 vols. 8vo., with *A Life of the Author from authentic documents, and Remarks on his Poems, by George Chalmers, Esq.*, prefixed.

of the *remarks* above referred to. I mention it therefore to Mr. Pinkerton *in confidence*, and solely for the purpose of justifying myself against a supposition, not perhaps extremely likely to have arisen, but which indeed it would give me pain to think he had for a moment indulged.

MR. J. MAWE* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Oban, July 6th, 1800.

It gives me pleasure to acquit myself of the promise I made you, to write you on my tour. I was set down by the mail at Evan-bridge-foot on the 31st ult., and walked to Lead-hills, distance six miles, all the way a mountainous country. The mountains are a species of whinstone or basalt, intersected with seams of granite, one hundred fathom deep, and about thirty or forty yards

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* Mr. Joseph Mawe, author of *Travels in the Interior of Brazil, &c.*, died Oct. 26, 1829, aged 64. He was a man who, through a long life of honorable and useful exertion, was continually employed in literary and scientific pursuits. As a mineralogist he was deservedly held in the highest estimation; and to his enterprise and talents this country is much indebted for the most faithful and interesting description of the Brazilian states, which he traversed in the year 1810, under the sanction and auspices of the Prince Regent of Portugal, (afterwards King John VI.) for the purpose of inspecting the extensive gold and diamond districts of that empire, being the first Englishman to whom such a permission had been granted. His Travels have gone through numerous editions in England and America, and have been translated into almost all the continental languages.

wide. When either of the substances are in decomposition (which they are at the surface) they present a very different appearance. The country all the way has every appearance of a mineral country. A rivulet runs through the valley to Evan-foot.

I visited all the mines and had every introduction, and brought a specimen of every variety (good or bad) for you. I was much pleased on being shown the manner of searching for gold.* An adept will lay ten to one he finds particles of gold in every trough of earth he washes. A trough contains about fifteen pounds of earth taken from any fissure, which he washes in a small stream, and keeps throwing away the surface until only a few ounces are left, when it is easy to see particles of gold about the size of a pin's head or larger. I had not time to attend more than three troughs washing, which took up about twenty minutes;

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* In this part of Dumfries-shire gold has long been known to exist. In the *Beauties of Scotland*, (II. p. 252,) it is stated that, "by the frequent washing of the torrents upon the sides of these mountains, large quantities of sand and gravel have, in the course of ages, been brought down to the valleys. Among the soil thus transferred from the high to the low grounds, gold has been found in small particles. General Dirom, in his table annexed to the map of the county, informs us that in the reign of James I. three hundred men are said to have been employed here for several summers in washing the sand and gravel for gold, and that they collected that metal to the amount of 100,000*l.* sterling. While wages remained at 4*d.* per day, the search was found sufficiently profitable; but on their rising to 6*d.* Scotch money, it was abandoned, except by some old men, unfit for other labor, who for a time continued it."

and I got five pieces of gold, which I put in a bottle with the earthy matter attending it, of a yellow color, and called by the man "indications:" these I shall beg your acceptance of. I left directions for him to get more; and the agent, who is my friend, will attend to it: he got several ounces of lead ore at the same time. Was water more plentiful, certainly a method might be devised to get lead ore, &c., as they get stream tin in Cornwall, by making a torrent down a fissure cut for the purpose.

From near here I set out *per* mail for Glasgow, and found the coal in granite. The feldspar is decomposed (as the Cornish from which they make porcelain): I put a piece in my pocket, knowing it will be interesting to you. Then I walked to Dumbarton, and found the bed of the river a species of basalt, near the town-mill of Glasgow; and the rocks in the neighborhood are of that substance, with some rounded masses of varieties of granite. The mountains near Dumbarton are a schistus with beds of basalt.

From Dumbarton I walked to Luss: I am sorry to say the inscription on the pedestal of the monument dedicated to the memory of Smollett is broken to pieces by mischievous boys throwing stones. The road is pleasant up Loch Lomond. The rocks are argillaceous schistus, with, perhaps, a little green mica in all directions; sometimes horizontal, and at others inclined and vertical: in it are very fine beds of slate, which are worked. I arrived at Arroquhar the same day, a most excellent inn on the banks of Loch Long, a pretty

situation: in all the water-courses I found a great variety of granites, though the stratum was schistus.

Next day I walked round the head of Loch Long, and through the grand Glencroe. The mountains are a micaceous schistus or gneiss, extremely full of quartzose veins: the mica very silvery; and the best roads all the way I ever travelled; by no means mountainous. Through rock and every obstacle the road is cut: whereever I found a substance I had not before got, I broke a bit off and put it in my pocket, knowing it would please you. I arrived at "*rest and be thankful:*"—for what? Why, for good and easy road; for the hill is by no means so formidable as many in Derbyshire. Glencroe is certainly a wild place; but I did not find the grandeur of scenery I expected. Many pieces of rock appear in very singular states, lying on each other, which evidently have fallen from above. Some are cut through to form the road, which is romantic and good, to Cairndhu, which is very pleasantly situated. Here is plenty of wood round the mansion of Sir A. Campbell, and all over the neighborhood, though it is small: the opposite hills are picturesque, while the beauty of Loch Fyne adds much grandeur to the scenery. On the banks is a variety of granites, of which I have some, to show you I have been there.

I walked to Inverary the same day, a delightful walk on the banks of Loch Fyne; plenty of wood on both shores all the way; the rocks schistus, with less mica. I was honored with an audience

by his Grace the Duke of Argyle, who condescendingly showed me many good specimens, and gave me letters to the chamberlains of Mull and Tirll. The same day I walked to Port Sonochan, eleven miles, on the banks of Loch Awe, (over the Alpine mountains four miles,) and was surprised to find rounded granites on the very tops; though the mountains were schistus, with immense veins of quartz. I crossed Loch Awe, and walked the same day to Ben Awe: a deal of wood all the way: the roads exceedingly good. The inns afford good accommodation. The rocks were of the same description as before, with more detached pieces of granite and larger, lying in the water-courses and about the roads.

Sunday, June 6th.—Walked from Ben Awe to Oban, a very pleasant walk: found more land cultivated, and great plenty of wood, chiefly the larch. Masses of granite appear more general, though the mountains are similar to those before described. Near Oban are mountains of considerable height, composed of breccia, in fragments of every shape and of every size, and in almost every state, cemented together by a silicious cement. Many of the pieces that compose the mass are rounded by attrition, and are the most singular assemblage I ever saw.

Monday Morning, rainy.—I hope to set out for Icolmkill to-morrow. I beg you to excuse incorrectness: I hope you will be able to make it out without much trouble.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

Hampstead, July 8th, 1800.

A serious illness of some days has prevented my answering sooner your favor of the 1st July; for which I thank you, as an obliging testimony of your candor and liberality. I scarcely remember what I said of Ramsay, but have not forgotten my vexation at seeing him so extravagantly praised, to the total exclusion and eclipse of all our ancient classics. Nor could I easily pardon the introduction of his Phœbus, instead of the genuine ancient words of our old times. Let him only occupy his proper place in our poetical firmament, and I am satisfied; but he must not usurp the whole zodiac, and represent all the twelve signs.

As, from a constitutional irritability of nerve, I have in my earlier productions shown much controversial asperity, it would be ridiculous in me to complain when I am paid in my own coin. Were I revising my books, I should dash out all such passages, which I never see without disgust. I I can only say they are the products of infirmity, and not of malice.

Your secret is sacred in my breast. I can hardly hold the pen; so, after repeating my acknowledgments for your manly and liberal letter,* I must subscribe myself with great regard,

Your faithful servant.

* It is much to be regretted that Mr. Pinkerton neglected to preserve the letter here alluded to.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, July 9th, 1800.

I did not receive your letter of June 28th till yesterday, from Mr. Stuart's mistake in having written Matthew instead of Malcolm in the direction. If Walker's book* has miscarried let me know, and another copy shall be sent immediately. It must have reached Mr. Campbell, as it went by a friend, and I directed it to be booked and sent by the coach to Hampstead. I shall be detained here till the 22d, time enough to send another copy if it be lost. I hope my brother's collection has been more fortunate. It was sent off about the 28th ult.

Mr. Mawe should not delay his journey to the north of Scotland beyond August, as the weather after that period is so precarious. It will give me great pleasure to see him in Orkney. Mr. Leyden is the author of that account of Africa which he gave to a bookseller gratis. He is a student of divinity and teacher, very young, and a good linguist.

I am desired to ask you, by Mr. Thompson an advocate, whether you have any letters of the late Lord Hailes, that could contribute to furnish an account of his life and writings. From some stu-

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* *Classes Mineralium, sive Characteres naturales et chymici classium et ordinum in systemate minerali, cum nominibus genericis adscriptis.* Edin. 1787, 8vo.

pidity of his administrators, Lord Hailes' letters, &c. were destroyed, I believe, at his death; and, unless in the hands of his correspondents, there are no materials for his life, which Mr. Thompson has some thoughts of undertaking, together with a new edition of his works. He left the first volume of his Annals corrected and enlarged for a new edition; and if you can contribute any thing to an account of his life, it will be received as a great obligation.

Is the curious paragraph from Lord Hailes in your Dissertation on the Gowrie conspiracy, p. 535, taken from his letters, or from any of his publications?

The Celts here begin to threaten an answer to my Dissertation on Ossian—the very thing I would wish; but I understand that more impartial men are convinced or converted. I shall be very happy to receive your remarks on my *History* at your leisure.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Adelphi, July 12th, 1800.

I know not whether it be in consequence of misapprehension on your part or on mine, that I find in your letter of 28th ult., which professes only to offer friendly advice, a series of most heavy charges.

I am there accused of puerile mutability of temper, of excessive and unjust parsimony, and am

lastly upbraided with unrequited benefits—admirable foundations of friendly attachment, it must be acknowledged! I am sufficiently conscious, and might clearly show, if required, that the first accusation is totally unfounded. The second might have been more worthy of attention, had your knowledge of my pecuniary circumstances enabled you to form an accurate judgment on the subject. But the last is doubtless the most weighty, and not easily to be forgotten.

I am so far from undervaluing my obligations to you, that I have always felt and acknowledged them; nor is it possible they should escape from my memory, so long as any impression be retained there. Not only what may have been written in Journals, but your letters, your conversations, never uninstructive—in short, the whole intercourse I have enjoyed since the commencement of our acquaintance, are in my judgment of the highest value; and, was I possessed of the means of applying to them arithmetical or algebraical calculation, they would, I believe, be estimated at a higher rate than by yourself.

But you perhaps conceive that delay is oblivion. I consider the sense of obligation to the greater number of men as intolerable thraldom; so that he who has such an opinion of his friend as to wait patiently for an opportunity of adequately thanking him, offers a tacit acknowledgment of his merit. You would say he is most forgetful of benefits.—Be it so.

I am far, very far from being impatient, and in *haste* for a second edition. On the contrary, I

rejoice at being freed from the thought and care required for it. Whether it be ever called for, is to me a matter of perfect indifference.

The aid you recommend to me to seek, would be, no doubt, very proper and useful. I am, however, little anxious for the reputation or the profit which is to be wholly derived from the labors of others. The public is in possession of most of the information I had to give. If the dress please not, each reader may adorn it for himself.

What you have now imparted that is really to the purpose, might have been communicated some months ago with much greater satisfaction and advantage to me. It would have prevented the conversation which has offended you; wherefore I cannot explain. "I must speak," say you, "in friendly frankness, and inform you that the additions you showed me were far from improvements, and immediately damped all my hopes and endeavors for a second edition." Here is the manly language of friendship, by which I acknowledge myself obliged, and which is conclusive as to the matter in question. But why not say this before? When I understood from you that Cadell and Davies had said they were ready for a second edition, as soon as I should have made certain alterations and additions which I promised, and when *you* (certainly not gratuitously) should have gone over the whole with a view to style; when they desired to see the drawings, and kept them several weeks, &c., &c.,—I could only answer numerous inquirers, that a second edition would probably be printed against the ensuing winter.

I should not thus have committed myself, had you been as frank before.

To have made no reply to a letter of the kind before me would have testified more than *ovile* patience of unmerited asperity, a part of character not likely to conciliate any man's esteem. Let this be my defence, and not any warmth of feeling in consequence of misapplied censure, if the contents of this should be any way offensive to you. I have the same value for your moral character, the same respect for your literary talents, and the same sincere inclination to promote your interests and happiness, that I have ever felt.

The subject may now be dismissed. I shall expect no answer; nor shall I on any account, short of absolute necessity, resume the pen on this subject.

P. S. I had written thus much in the intention of forwarding it immediately; but, dubious whether a personal interview might not furnish fitter occasion of reply, (the only *dubiety* in my notions that I recollect,) I have kept it till now. The expressions may be careless; but I cannot undergo the *ennui* of re-writing it. The frankness of plain truth assuredly does not nor ever will offend me; but the charge of levity, which I despise, and of extreme selfishness, which I abhor, can produce no agreeable emotions. I have received the pamphlets you were kind enough to send.

MR. MAWE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Laggan, Mull Isle,
July 12th, 1800.

I trust you have received my letter from Oban, dated the 6th inst. So far, I have been very unfortunate, in having *almost* constant bad weather: gales of wind, and rain without ceasing. The neighborhood of Oban is schistus, and rocks of heterogeneous matter, a sort of pudding-stone, which forms whole mountains of all varieties of substances, rounded, &c. The cementing matter is so decomposed that it will scarcely hold the masses together. I went to the hill near where Beregonium* is supposed to have stood; distance

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*"A mile from Connel, near the shore, is *Dun-Mac-Sniochain*, the ancient *Beregonium*, or *Berogonium*. The foundation of this city, as it is called, is attributed by *apocryphal* history to Fergus II., and was called the *chief* in Scotland for many ages. It was at best but such a city as Cæsar found in our island at the time of his invasion; an *oppidum*, or fortified town, placed in a thick wood, surrounded with a rampart and foss, a place of retreat from invaders. Along the top of the beach is a raised mound, the defence against a sudden landing. This, from the idea of here having been a city, is styled *Straid-a-mharghai*, or market, street. Within this are two rude erect columns, about six feet high and nine and a half in girth: behind these a peat moss: on one side a range of low hills, at whose nearest extremity is an intrenchment called *Dun-valirè*. On the western side of the morass is an oblong insulated hill, on whose summit the country people say there had been seven towers. I could only perceive three or four excavations of no certain form, and a dike round them."—*Pennant's Tour in Scotland*, ii. p. 412.

about six miles from Oban, and about two from Dunstaffnage, opposite the latter. The mountain is not large nor very high, but steep and difficult of access in any direction: it is a schistus. The upper part has several hills or little risings, which are a mass of almost every variety of rounded stones, &c. to be found in the country: many of them are not vitrified, as the granites; but the substance that has cemented them is certainly a scoria. I have a variety of specimens from different parts of this mountain, also pumice-stone. Oban is not very interesting for minerals.

I crossed the ferry at Kerrera, and walked across the isle to the ferry for Mull: the component parts of Kerrera are schistus. Near the ferry to go to Mull are rocks of plum-pudding-stone, as at Oban. The stones are large; and I thought I discovered the same appearance of scoria which cemented the whole, as at the mountain near Beregonium; but it was by no means so distinct, but had an affinity.

I crossed to Mull, a dangerous ferry, in a gale of wind and contrary tide, landed near Duart castle; the whole mountains black basalt. I then walked to Aros, and found no difference in the component parts of the rocks, except in decomposition, when they take a browner, or greener, or whiter color, and the varieties have the greatest affinity to the Derbyshire toad-stone; and I am almost convinced they have the same component parts. The white porous stones called lava,*

* Faujas de St. Fond, a very amusing, enlightened and in-

near Aros, I think are only bleached by the weather. I broke hundreds of them that were white, and found them from brown to black in the inside.

I walked to Laggan, close to Ulva, to take boat to Staffa: the stormy weather still continued. All the way basalt with more specks of zeolite and calx spar; the road indifferent and mountainous. From Laggan I set out for Staffa, but could not row, as the wind was so high and due against me. I went to see a cave at Gribon, which I found situated at the bottom of an immense mountain, perpendicular and close to the sea: my attention was roused with an entire change of strata, a prodigious mountain of granite close to basalt: what is uncommon, (if ever before noticed,) the granite is exceedingly regularly stratified. The upper part next the grass was rounded stones and fragments of every description, as plum-pudding-stone, for a few fathoms, then a regular stratified granite. I never saw lime-stone so distincly stratified. The cave is very large and awful, and of considerable extent. A water-course appears to

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structive traveller, save that his *volcanized* eye saw the presence of fire in every thing, says, (*Travels*, II. p. 106.) that "the river of Aros, from its source to its mouth, runs on a compact lava, which varies in color from a deep black to gray and reddish;" and his account of the Natural History of the Isle of Mull is so full of lava, pumice, scoria, extinct volcanoes, and the other effects of the operation of subterranean heat, that a reader, with very little stretch of imagination, might be led to suppose he was perusing a continuation of Sir William Hamilton's description of the *Campi Phlegræi*.

have run through it, as at its bottom is a considerable depth of sand. The cave is quite an asylum for water-fowl. I returned to the inn and saw a mill, the water-wheel of which works horizontally: the most simple method; but it requires more water, of which there is no scarcity here at this time, for the hurricane continues with rain. I am very happy to say I have not perceived any particular want of bread: every family had it to offer me if I called at any hut, and milk in great plenty.

Sunday I went to Iona, and saw all to be seen, as the cathedral, convent, &c. I have sent you specimens of a variety of subjects I got here. The marble is in veins in the granite, of which the island is composed. The pebbles are by no means so interesting as I expected to have found them; and the cathedral is built of rounded stones (chiefly granite), as gathered from the beach. The granite contains some veins of serpentine; the bays are sandy; and the crops are very forward.

Hence to Staffa, (and a most grand subject it is!) Faujas de St. Fond has given very good prints, in his book, of the island; though it is almost beyond describing. I was disappointed in not getting more good minerals than those I have got; and the columns are too large to take away. I have some good pieces of the matrix. From Laggan I went across Mull to Tobermory, a very mountainous and barren country. From Tobermory across the Sound of Mull to Ardnamurchan, and thence to Strontian; a most fatiguing walk of twenty Scotch miles over mountains as high as the moon. The

mountains here are all granite, of great variety, from the brown to the fine red: here are the first mountains of red granite I have seen: though I found nodules all over Scotland. The crops are here in general very good, and some very forward: an immense quantity of potatoes is growing. The mines here are given up: the lead ore is found in the granite. I am very unlucky in having bad weather.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

St. Valèri, July 28th, 1800.

I had made several vain inquiries after a copy of Dr. Beaufort's Memoir, when I received the inclosed;* and I declined, as you may suppose, his obliging offer, but informed him I should acquaint you with his having made it.

I have not yet heard from Mr. Kirwan on the subject of your memorandum; but Sir W. Ouseley has promised to assist me in procuring you some Irish minerals; and a fair and highly accomplished German friend, who is just gone to Killarney, has undertaken to get a specimen or two of Killarney marble. In my next, I hope to send you the heights of our mountains, and a little pamphlet by

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* The inclosure alluded to was a letter from Dr. Beaufort, stating that, as his Memoir was out of print, he should send Mr. Walker, for Mr. Pinkerton, one of a very few presentation copies on fine paper which he still had by him.

my geographical friend. I shall beg of some friend to call at Mr. Harding's for the pamphlet for Mr. Kirwan.

I am extremely obliged by your goodness in regard to my new work. Octavo size I approve of: it is certainly the most saleable. A few copies might be printed on quarto paper for the lovers of that size. The work would make one thick octavo volume at least.

To wait two years, and then probably be told that the work has produced nothing, would be bad encouragement to engage again in a work of extensive research, and of a nature that must lead to expense in the purchase of books, &c. Something on account I would naturally expect; and if not a note for a certain sum at six or nine or twelve months, a certainty of a share of the profits. These, I think, are fair terms. However, I shall be perfectly satisfied with any thing you and Sir W. Ouseley may kindly do on the occasion. For what you have done I am grateful.

Burns' works I think a very interesting publication. Dr. Currie's part seems to be extremely well executed. There is a great deal of good sense, good writing, and acute remark in his preface. On the subject of Scotish Song he is pleasing and satisfactory. I hope Allan Ramsay has been equally fortunate in an editor.

MR. ARTHUR AIKIN* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Salop, September 7th, 1800.

The parcel inclosing a letter and copies of your "*New Arrangement of Mineralogy*" came safe to hand. I have not yet had an opportunity of waiting on Dr. Townson, with whom I intended to have discussed the merits of your sketch. I have, however, read it over very carefully myself; and, if the following remarks that have suggested themselves to me, separated from books of reference, and written in occasional intervals from other pursuits, are of any consequence, they are much at your service. Whatever may be their inaccuracies, at least I may venture to say, that they will have the merit of expressing my real sentiments on the subject.

I object, in the first place, to your grand division of uninflammable minerals into *common earths* and *uncommon earths;* for, though silex, argil and lime are of more frequent occurrence than magnesia, strontian and barytes, yet of the compound minerals arranged under the above orders, some which are thrown into the class of *uncommon earths,* as steatite and serpentine, are much oftener met with, and in larger masses, and are really of more consequence in a geological point of view, than lazulite, opal, elastic quartz, the

* Son of D. Aikin, and author of a *Tour through North Wales,* of a *Dictionary of Chemistry and Mineralogy,* and of many other works connected with those subjects.

gems, alum, carbonate of argil, lepidolite, pure lime, and some others which are arranged among the common earths.

I am not satisfied with the subdivisions of *primitive* and *mingled;* they appear to me in several cases to run into each other, especially in the genus *mica.* Neither do I like bringing the mountains as appendixes to the several genera of simple minerals.

In the arrangement of minerals, as well as of every other department of natural history, there are two methods to be followed, each of which, in my opinion, ought to be kept entirely distinct. The first is for the use of the student, and therefore, in all its divisions and essential characters, should be so constructed as to lead the inquirer, with the certainty of a dictionary, to the substance that he is looking for. The second, for the philosophical geologist, should point out, as far as the present state of knowledge will enable us, the order observed by nature in the arrangement and transition of one mineral into another. It does not appear to me that your arrangement answers either of these ends. Suppose the student meets with a specimen of serpentine: he knows not whether it is common or uncommon; and a practical geologist not conversant in artificial arrangements, finding topaz ranked among the common earths, would be surprised to find serpentine among the uncommon ones. So much for the subdivisions: of the genera I will give you my opinion on a future occasion.

Thus, you see, Sir, I have remarked upon you

most unmercifully. I feel certain, however, that you will take it in good part, and attribute it to the real motive, a desire of complying with your request in most perfect sincerity.

MR. GILBERT LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, Sept. 10th, 1800.

I make no apology for being so long in arrear for your letter of 10th July; as I waited till I had matter interesting to you as a mineralogist. The specimens I sent you were packed up in haste by my clerk, as I was absent; and I have made some mistakes, I find, in the names. But number eighteen has the authority of Dr. Walker. I mean the rock in general called clay-bed by our miners. It varies, however, prodigiously in the same hill; and, without any apparent discontinuity of stone, I have seen it from the softness of tough clay to the hardness of striking fire with steel: in the language of miners, from *mell and wedge* to *blasting;* and this too at a depth of forty or fifty fathoms. I shall soon replace the specimens injured in the carriage. I have by me Kirwan's last edition; and, what is of great use, Mitchell's Translation of the Leskean Collection. Babbington's book I have not been able to get in London even, being out of print.

Before my brother set out for Orkney, he gave me a letter from you of 13th July to answer, respecting some queries to Dr. Walker. I attended his lectures in 1789, and have considerable manu-

script notes taken from them, which are valuable, as relating much to Scotch minerals. I shall send you a few notes (which, if you approve, I shall continue hereafter) relating merely to Scotland. His Latin names of the genera are all from the ancients; the greatest part from Pliny.

I have not been able to see the Doctor, to examine myself a specimen of amianthus from the Isle of Bernera; but in whatever relates to the Western Isles, you may depend upon it the Doctor is perfectly accurate; as he has repeatedly visited every one, and knows more perhaps than any person I can name of their agriculture and mineralogy, and of the manners and customs of all ranks of their inhabitants.*

I have lately returned from my quarterly visit to the mines. In my road home, I had an excellent opportunity of collecting some specimens of rocks. In a hilly country, a new-built stone dike, or a newly covered road, is a study for a mineralogist. For some miles, our road was covered with stones taken from the braes, or from the Clyde and Duneaton rivers. I selected some specimens which you may consider curious; and, when I have other specimens sufficient for a box-full, they will be sent you. I am glad to learn from Mr. Mawe, who delivered me your letter, that you pay particular attention to collect specimens of rocks. They are

* Twelve years after the date of this letter a posthumous work was published from the pen of Dr. Walker, who was Professor of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh, entitled, *The Economical History of the Hebrides and Highlands of Scotland*, 2 vols. 8vo.

by far the most interesting part of mineralogy. Mr. Mawe was at Wanloch-head, and has picked up a very great quantity of specimens as to bulk; but, I presume, not much in regard to variety. I hope soon to get the granite from Criffel in Dumfries-shire. The black lead from Dumfries Estate in Ayrshire is made into pencils and Hessian crucibles. The pencils are rather harder than those of English black lead: inferior therefore for drawing, but superior for writing and ruling lines. The antimony from Sir J. Johnstone's estate in Dumfries-shire has been raised by a mining company to some advantage, but is now failing.

The extent of mining adventure is much curtailed in Scotland. There are of lead-mines working, only the Duke of Queensberry's and Lord Hopeton's contiguous mines. Strontian, Tyndrum, New Galloway, and Afton mines are all given up; and, I apprehend, no new lead mines are likely to be discovered. It is singular that every bearing vein, either at Wanloch-head or Lead-hills, has been known for above one hundred years; and I believe no entire discovery of a bearing vein in Scotland has been made for fifty years past. I lately visited Cumberhead mine near Lesmahago: it is very singular. In a flat-lying argillaceous schistus, which breaks up in flat thin beds of any size, is a five-foot-wide vein of sulphat of barytes, almost perpendicular; in this barytes, totally immersed in it, is cubical galæna, or sulphat of lead, of fine quality. I picked up many lumps, apparently barytes; but, on breaking them, I generally found lead ore in the middle.

In speaking of Dr. Walker, I forgot to mention that he is the most intimate friend of Mr. Kirwan; and I suppose the latter must have a copy of his book. I have often urged the Doctor to extend the book to the characters of the genera; but he is growing old and indolent, I fear.

Mr. Gibson sent me two copies of a new arrangement of minerals, I presume from your pen, and containing in my opinion some excellent improvements on former systems. But this is a branch of Natural History, in the arrangement of which there is too much diversity of opinion. To rout the system of arranging rocks separately, will be as difficult as to move the rocks themselves.

LADY ANCRAM TO MR. PINKERTON.

Newbottle Abbey, Sept. 10th, 1800.

Had I not been very ill ever since my return from Ireland in March, I ought to feel extremely ashamed of having so long neglected to answer your letter. Not having been here at the time the drawings were transmitted to you, I can merely state what I understand to be a true account of the originals. There is written on the portrait of Robert Earl of Lothian, "Robert Earl of Lothian, the son of Mark;" and he must have been son of Mark, the first Earl of Lothian, who was son of the last Abbot of Newbottle. He is the Earl of Lothian mentioned by Scotstarvet, in his "*Staggering State*," as the husband of the Lady

Annabella Campbell, sister of the Marquis of Argyle; and he was father of the heiress of Lothian, married to the eldest son of the Earl of Ancram.

Of the two Earls of Argyle, one is father of the Marquis; the other, his son. As it appears to me that you have some doubts respecting the latter, I will give you my reasons for believing in its authenticity. The name is on the picture; and this family having married for three generations into the Argyle family, and the last time to the daughter of this Earl, a mistake cannot reasonably be supposed. He appears to have been very young at the time the portrait was painted; and, excepting the difference of colors, the dress is the same as that of a brother of the first Marquis of Lothian, painted in Holland, 1653. The likeness to a picture of the Lady Margaret Douglas, his mother, is very great; as also to that of his sister, the first Marchioness of Lothian; and the hair and complexion are those of the present family of Argyle. Having said this, I must acknowledge that this portrait bears no resemblance to a bad print I have seen of this Earl of Argyle, when more advanced in years.

I am no judge of pictures; but I much fear that the portrait of Cardinal Beaton bears no marks of originality. It is on canvass, and has no appearance of an ancient painting: however, I am inclined to believe it may be an authentic copy, having found some letters from a person at Paris who was employed by the third Earl of Lothian, at a considerable expense, to collect

good copies of portraits for him. One letter mentions six cardinals; but this is not one of them. The inscription is on the portrait.

A Mr. Gardiner, who introduced himself here under your auspices, has done some uncommonly good drawings for you, and for *his noble authors.* I do not know what his final decision was relative to Cardinal Beaton: he said that canvass was no proof, &c. &c.; and I was too ill when he was here to comprehend what was said to me; but I think he seemed to be of opinion that it was an exact copy. He copied an Earl of Somerset, which I imagine to be authentic: that sent to you some time ago, though the name is also written on it, has no appearance of being so. Many of the pictures here were burnt with the house about thirty years ago, and most of those which remain have been dreadfully injured by the scorching of the flames, and by being thrown out of the windows; and, most of all, by being cleaned and repaired. There is a portrait here by Holbein, undoubtedly; and it is called James IV. Will you excuse my asking you if this is possible? He has a yellow flower in his hand. The companion to it, also by Holbein, is called Margaret Tudor; and she answers so perfectly to the description, and has so strong a look of her brother, that one can have little doubt about her. The papers in this house are in dreadful confusion, and many must have been destroyed; but, were it possible that you should ever see them, I think you might find some curious letters; and probably many which appear indifferent to me might be interest-

ing to you. My answer to your three questions has been sufficiently voluminous: therefore I will not give you the trouble of reading any more.

MR. MAURICE* TO MR. PINKERTON.

British Museum, Sept. 18th, 1800.

Having, during my writing one of the dissertations in this volume, been occasionally much obliged to your very useful *Essay on Medals*, I beg to request your acceptance of it, and feel great regret that I am unable to accompany it with those that preceded it; but they have been long out of print. If I do not also ask too great a favor, I would solicit your obliging efforts to get it early noticed in the Critical Review; where full justice has not, my friends think, always been done me. I hope literary men may make without offence these little applications to each other; and I assure you that, whatever misrepresentations there may have been made (some, undoubtedly, there have been), there exists no more sincere admirer of your genius and erudition than, Sir, your obedient and faithful servant.

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* "Rev. Thomas Maurice, author of *Indian Antiquities, in six volumes*, 8vo., and of the *History of Hindostan, its arts and its sciences, as connected with the other great empires of Asia, during the most ancient periods of the world.* The public are well acquainted with their merits."—*Pursuits of Literature.*

MR. HATCHETT* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Hammersmith, Lower Mall,
Dec. 29th, 1800.

I beg you to accept my best thanks for your obliging presents; and I should have taken an earlier opportunity of making my grateful acknowledgments, had I not wished previously to finish some matters which were urgent, in order that I might afterwards read your truly useful Tract with due attention.

I am exceedingly pleased to see that you have so well connected perspicuity with brevity: the general arrangement appears to me to be judicious; and, as you do me the honor to request my opinion, I shall take the liberty to mention the only objection which has occurred to me; and that is, the insertion of pyrites among the inflammable substances. I know very well that you have Baron Born and some other eminent mineralogists to support such a classification; but, on the other hand, it has of late years been rejected by Werner, Widenman, &c. &c.; and, according to my ideas, with great reason; for pyrites (being iron mineralized by sulphur) must evidently be regarded as a sulphurated ore of

* Charles Hatchett, Esq., one of the most distinguished chemists of the present day, was author of many important publications on that subject; all of which, I believe, appeared either in the Philosophical Transactions or in Nicholson's Journal.

iron; and although, for very obvious reasons, it is not worked as such, yet to naturalists that cannot be deemed of any consequence. The study of pyrites, in all of its numerous modifications, appears to be a most instructive part of mineralogy. By the addition of a portion of copper (occasionally very small), pyrites becomes the yellow copper ore; an increase of the cuperous ingredient produces the variegated ore, which lastly graduates into the sulphuret of copper, or vitreous ore.

The martial pyrites also, by the spontaneous dissipation of the sulphur, becomes the hepatic ore, which you know is really worked as an iron ore in many countries (for example, in Siberia); and there even appears a connexion between common pyrites and the grey ores of iron, by means of the magnetical pyrites. For these reasons I am induced to believe that pyrites ought to be classed with the metallic substances, and not with the inflammables.

The presence and abundance of sulphur does not appear to entitle pyrites to be considered as an inflammable substance any more than the other sulphurated ores of metals; and it always seemed to me very strange that Born should have inserted pyrites among the inflammables; while, in the very same work, he classed the bitumen containing mercury, and that which contains a small portion of oxide of iron, with the ores of those two metals.

I must once again apologise for having taken this liberty, and assure you that I should not have

done it, had it not been for the request contained in your letter.

SIR W. OUSELEY TO MR. PINKERTON.

No. 48, Upper Norton Street,
March 23rd, 1801.

I should have answered your letter on the subject of Persian mountains, &c., had I not found it a more difficult and perplexed one than could well have been imagined. The Eastern authors vaguely describe all great mountains as touching the skies, &c. &c.; so that little can be gathered from them as to their comparative height and extent. The essence of all the best travellers and geographers seems to have been extracted by Wahl in his admirable *Altes und niewes*, &c.; and I had a notion of tracing for you the chains of mountains which he lays down from his book and maps, and adding the proper Persian to the classical names. *Orontes* is certainly the *Orwend* or *Arwend* of the Persians; but the names are not always retained.

The Turcomanian words, which form part of the modern Turkish, are certainly those brought from Transoxania by the original emigrants from Great Tartary; and I imagine that all the Tartars, or inhabitants of the countries on the East of the River Jihoun, or Oxus, have used the language to which those words belong. The learned Jenisch* gives a specimen of Turkish and Jaga-

* See his work intitled, *Philosophisch-Kritische*, &c., or a

thay, which proves them to be the same; and he finds very little difference between the modern Turkish and the dialect of Crim Tartary. In pure Turkish all infinitives end in *mak* or *mek:* the construction of the language is sufficiently simple: ablatives are formed by adding *den:* plurals by adding *ler*, whether the nominative be a word originally Turkish or borrowed from the Arabic or Persian.

Peyssonel's quarto* I have not had an opportunity of looking at; but shall attack the inscriptions you mention as soon as possible. I have, and they are at your service, most of the recent publications on Persian and Turkish subjects; Jackson's, Forster's, Taylor's Travels, &c.: Habesshi's Ottoman Empire. You know *Eton's Survey* of it. Francklin's Tour is fifteen years old. And I can lend you most of the old travellers; Le Bruyn, Pietro della Valle, &c.; but, in geography, the notes to Petit de la Croix's History of Timour and Gengis Khan, with Otter's Travels, are among the best. If you can call

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Philosophical and Critical Estimate of Fourteen Ancient and Modern European Languages; viz. Greek, Latin, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, French, English, German, Dutch, Danish, Swedish, Polish, Russian, and Lithuanian.—Berlin, 1796, 8vo.

* *Observations, Historical and Geographical, concerning those Barbarous Nations that inhabited the Banks of the Danube, and the Borders of the Euxine Sea,* (in French.) Paris, 1765. M. Peyssonel was the French king's consul to the Khan of Tartary, and afterwards held the same office in Candia and at Smyrna.

any day, I'll show you what I have; and you can pick out such as you please to look at. Ellis's Account of the Countries between the Black and Caspian Seas is very good; also Hanway's Travels.

MR. W. G. BROWNE* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Constantinople, March 24th, 1801.

At length, my dear Sir, I feel myself in a situation to terminate the silence which has so long deprived me of your communications, by leaving you in total uncertainty, not only as to the place of my abode, but even the continuance of my existence. Six long months have fled with silent pace since our last conversation in London; and yet I am but lately arrived at what may be called a point of departure. Revolving in my mind your wonted habits, I am led to contrast the misapplication of my own time, with the labors and amusements, both of them in-

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* The unfortunate misunderstanding between Mr. Browne and Mr. Pinkerton which had given rise to the last letter from the former, (see p. 178,) had happily been settled only two days subsequently to the date of that letter, by a rejoinder from Mr. Pinkerton; in consequence of which Mr. Browne wrote him—"My reluctance in using the terms in which my last was conceived, was best testified by twelve days' delay. My satisfaction in acknowledging that your letter of to-day has done away the unfavorable impression which might have resulted from the former, is more strongly marked by an immediate reply."

structive, which will have marked the distribution of yours.

You will no doubt be ready to attribute the loss complained of to my own indolence and neglect, and will imagine me *in cathedrâ*, as in the Adelphi, obscured by the fumes of tobacco, and listlessly expecting the diurnal libation of port. Yet I have important corrections to make, not only in the attitude, but in the figure itself. As far as relates to the animal, it never was more sane or disposed to be active than during the interval mentioned; and the narcotic herb was banished from its proboscis for many successive weeks.

A few hours after we last met, I applied to the noble peer of whom we discoursed, respecting the route then in question, but without success. No other track then remained, except by sea. I therefore encountered the cheerless fogs of Hamburg, and the dreary sands of Mecklenburg and Prussia, with that kind of complacency which results from the contemplation of necessity. The winter had not commenced when I arrived at Dresden. The snow, however, soon overspread the mountains of Bohemia; and my course was arrested at Prague by one of the consequential apes of German noblesse, ycleped a director of police, which, consoled for its native insignificance by the important privilege of impeding its betters, started difficulties as to my passport, and thus lengthened my journey by some weeks. After leaving Vienna, the passage by way of Hungary and Wallachia being very

uncertain, I determined to proceed to Trieste. There it became necessary to wait for a vessel, which, when found, in her passage down the "unquiet Adriatic" was so long the sport of the envious sirocco, that I was unable to reach Smyrna till the latter days of February. Thence I took the shortest road to the capital, where my arrival happened on the 10th instant. I should, however, mention my having paid a short visit to Athens, where I found what I consider as two of the coins you desired me to inquire for.

I did not forget you at Vienna, when minerals came under my notice; but how and when what I sent will reach England, in the present confusion worse confounded, I cannot divine; and I therefore say no more. My own clothes and books, which were sent after me, have been taken and carried into Boulogne; the third unpleasant circumstance of the same kind in my fortunate career as a traveller!

Does Sir William Ouseley intend to come out, and when? I saw Jenisch at Vienna, who inquired after him. Mr. Carlyle has lately left Constantinople. I am told he picked up some Arabic manuscripts, but no Greek; as we both long since foresaw. What remains of my destination will depend on the development of the mysteries with which the political gods above us delight to obscure the atmosphere of little mortals.

We are in daily expectation of hearing the result of the Egyptian expedition. Mature reflection, ample information, and promptitude of execution, have always been such inseparable

characteristics of our military expeditions, that no doubt whatever can be entertained of its success. The courier is about to depart; and I have only time to add my best wishes to you and yours.

CAPTAIN MENDOZA* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Paddington, Jan. 22nd, 1802.

I have received your letter of the 18th instant, and have endeavored to find out some sources of information respecting the Spanish dominions in North America, as you desire; but without success till now. I have not the History of Cinaloa, nor indeed any Spanish books whatsoever. I think the Geographical Dictionary of Alcedo would afford you the information you want; and perhaps it is in the library of the Marquis of Bute. There have been some periodi-

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* This letter was inclosed in one from the Marquis of Bute, in which, after telling Mr. Pinkerton that he could supply him with no information regarding the geography of New Spain, either from his own knowledge or from his library, he adds, "Captain Mendoza, who resides at Paddington, is the only person in this country able to assist your researches in similar matters. He is a sensible well-informed man." The name of Captain Mendoza was Joseph de Mendoza Rios: he published a "*Complete Collection of Tables for Navigation and Nautical Astronomy, with simple, concise, and accurate methods for all the calculations useful at sea, particularly for deducing the longitude from lunar distances, and the latitude from two altitudes of the sun, and the intervals of time between the observations.*"—London, 1805. 4to.

cal publications at Madrid on Political Economy, &c., which may contain some parts useful for your undertaking; but I am ignorant of their real merit, and do not know of any copies in this country. Bourgoing's list of modern literary productions in Spain has been continued by the German, Fischer, in his Travels; and, on casting your eyes upon these accounts, you will at once discover whether it is worth your while to take the trouble of examining those books. I am sorry that it is not in my power to give you the information you desire.

MR. VINCE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Cambridge, Feb. 9th, 1802.

I was this day favored with your letter, and am very glad you approve of my Introduction. It was my wish to omit nothing which might be judged proper for the purpose; and in the selection of the matter, I was directed by what I considered would be most generally interesting and useful. I returned Mr. Arrowsmith's book a few days after he sent it me down. I did not find in it much to my purpose; but, from other sources, I was enabled to make many corrections, as I judged the authorities better. I could have given so few authorities, that I thought it better not to give any. I trust the table will now be found tolerably correct. These matters, however, par-

ticularly the longitude, will continually admit of farther corrections from more observations, as the mean of a greater number will be always more correct. I forgot to tell the printer that he might leave out the last column, containing the time of high water; as it is determined for so very few places, that it is perhaps scarcely worth inserting. I added the latitude and longitude of some other places, and marked where they were to come in. You have certainly said quite sufficient in the preface respecting myself. I agree with you that any thing which has at all the appearance of a puff should be avoided, for the credit of us both. I shall be glad to see the book out.

MESSRS. CADELL AND DAVIES TO MR. PINKERTON.

London, Feb. 13th, 1802.

It had not occurred to Mr. Longman, any more than to ourselves, that the Abridgement of the Geography could possibly be attended with so much labor to require any thing like so large a sum as 533*l.* We are, however, naturally desirous that the abridgement should be made by yourself, as you have expressed a willingness to undertake it, rather than by any other person; and that your remuneration should be as liberal as circumstances admit. Allow us then to request that you will have the goodness to re-consider the matter, bearing in mind how enormously all the expenses

of publication are increased; that the book must necessarily be of moderate price; how many thousand copies must be sold before we could be ever repaid so large a sum; and how much we have already risked in the work.

We think with you that an *Ancient Geography*, in one moderate-sized quarto volume, would form a desirable companion to our *Modern Geography*; and, in the event of your determining to undertake it, we shall feel obliged by a communication of further particulars respecting it.

MR. MALCOLM LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, Feb. 18th, 1802.

I sent you some considerable time ago the *Complaint of Scotland*, and Dalzell's *Collection of Scotch Poems*, which I hope you received. The preface to the *Complaint* is of little more value than Dalzell's Collection; but a collection of border ballads, intitled the *Minstrelsy of the Border*, has been just published in two volumes by Walter Scott, who will probably send you a copy at my desire. It possesses great merit; but I will not vouch for all its traditions.

I am happy to see that your geographical labor will soon appear. You have very fortunately anticipated two Scotch professors, who were separately employed on the same subject.

My Dissertation on Queen Mary has been

delayed for a year by an unlucky law-suit that detained me collecting evidence in Orkney, till it was too late to go to the press. I shall begin to print in summer.

MR. MAWE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Paris, March 16th, 1802.

I this day paid a visit to M. Patrin, who appears a very quick and meritorious geologist: he has published a work in five volumes.* He resided in Russia ten years, and is well acquainted with Siberia: he made the route from thence to China. In showing me his fine collection of Siberian productions, I asked if he had any aquamarines with pyramids; to which he paid little attention. I perceived by his looks that the minutiæ or refinements of crystallization were too little for him to attend to. Having one of your Systems of Arrangement in my pocket, I begged his acceptance of it, and took the opportunity of showing him the passage relative to the Abbé Haüy, describing the littleness of crystallization, and throwing the rocks, &c. into an appendix: he read it with more pleasure than ease: he kissed the book and was delighted: he was in ecstasies, begging his thanks and compliments to the author.

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* *Eugene Michel Patrin; Histoire Naturelle des Minéraux.*—Paris, 1800, 5 vols. 8vo. He also published a Memoir on the Mines of Siberia.

I have also seen the Abbé Haüy, who is one of the most mild and pleasing men I ever met with. His manners are quite unassuming and humble: he is full sixty years old, and very pious. Vauquelin is equally mild and unassuming.

Paris is a fine theatre for the improvement of the arts: the lectures are all free; and it really must stamp a character upon a man who studies here: they will not long be inferior (if they are now) to Friberg. I long much to reap some information, and have ambition without abilities, I fear. By studying here a few months I should improve myself during my life; and it perhaps may be a leading feature to something; but I find the language so difficult, and sacrifice so much by leaving my affairs in England, that I do not know what to do for the best. My pride revolts at my returning (amidst all these opportunities of learning and improving myself,) as ignorant as I came, which will be a reflection on me for ever. I hope you call sometimes in Tavistock Street. My minerals are not arrived yet; and until they come I can do nothing; nor do I obtain many introductions. Patience and perseverance! *Had grammarians been sailors*, they would have introduced fewer parts of speech, grammar-rules, &c. &c.; for I certainly would rather go an East-India voyage as a sailor (and it would be less difficult) than to learn French.

The collection at the *Ecole des Mines* occupies about ten large and handsome rooms, into which all the light possible is thrown. The minerals are arranged on tables covered with glass frames,

which show them to the greatest advantage: they have many specimens, but not very fine; nor are the rooms more than half full—they much want fine and interesting English minerals. The theatre, where the lectures relative to mineralogy are given, is a large laboratory, where is every thing necessary for experiments: I attended at a lecture on chemistry this morning, and understood it very well; to-morrow I purpose to attend a lecture on crystallography by the Abbé Haüy. The various lectures are given gratis; and students copy any picture they please in the Louvre gallery.

Now the carnival is over, we are a little tranquil; but the weather is certainly colder than in England. I expect my minerals to-morrow; and after they arrive I shall endeavor to make myself more known. On Friday, March 18th, an assassin killed a man and his wife in their shop on the Pont Neuf; but I do not think affairs of that sort, or suicide, more general than in any other metropolis equal in population. The men here seem to be less addicted to the folly of fashion than the English: they put on more clothes when they are cold, and wear more than the English: we have uncommonly fine apples at about a halfpenny each; and game and poultry are a little cheaper than beef, &c. The coffee-houses, which are very numerous, are always full after dinner: so are the theatres, &c. The streets are so provokingly bad and dirty, that a man derives but little pleasure in walking. The china-shops, the watchmakers, and glass-shops, display great taste.

Here are a number of lotteries, as of Bordeaux,

Lyons, &c.: one, I am told, every week; and people stand to offer tickets and shares at the corner of every street. I have shifted my lodgings, and am now in the *Hôtel de Nice*, No. 21, Rue Jacob, where Sterne was: I had also the fortune to have his apartment at Dessin's at Calais. My French master's name is Deville: he was twelve years in Edinburgh: he takes great pains with me, particularly to prevent me from learning too much; for I sometimes attempt to learn a dozen pages at once, instead of confining myself to learn an article from a pronoun, a verb from a preposition, &c. &c. I am sorry to state it takes a considerable time to learn to know one's own ignorance: to splutter a few French words, so as to be understood by an Englishman, is very different to speaking French. I am glad to assure you I begin to read it tolerably, and will unremittingly study it during my stay here. Who knows but I may know how to write a French sentence by the time I may have the pleasure of seeing you? Yesterday we had a lecture on mechanics. I wonder the French do not cultivate the potato more: they have here only one sort, and that indifferent.

Thursday.—I wish much to send you some account of M. Patrin, and what he says of your book and mine. I have called twice at his house since I presented them to him, and was not fortunate enough to find him at home. To-day I have been to the museum at the *Jardin des Plantes.* There is a suite of rooms for natural history in every department, where they are arranged in the

best manner, after (or rather by) Buffon. Birds of every variety, finely preserved; beasts, fish, serpents, insects, &c.: in rooms below are minerals, woods, seeds, &c., open to the public. The *Ménagerie,* at the other end of the garden, contains the finest specimens in Europe. The tigers sent by Tippoo are uncommonly large: the lion is full four feet two inches high, a *superb beast.* Here is a great opportunity to reap information.

My minerals are at last arrived, and now I hope to begin to do something in that line: at present I am hardly known. Faujas being in the country is a loss to me: the others do not speak English. A work on chemistry is expected from Berthollet. We have immensities of whitings here. I wish you could see the poultry-market. To-day I saw for the first time pigeons in droves: three or four hundred in a drove (young ones) are inclosed in a small space in the markets, where they run about without attempting to get away; and people go and buy as many as they want: they see them killed, &c. We pay just two-pence for a dish, not large, of most excellent coffee: the four or five lumps of sugar sent with it is, in England, certainly worth a penny: therefore the coffee only costs a penny. In the museum of the Louvre are several porphyry vases, and granite columns sixteen feet high by sixteen or eighteen inches diameter, all in one piece. The paintings, &c. are the most valuable that were in Holland, Italy, &c. &c., and are inexpressibly fine, as are the statues.

I hope in my next to give you some account of

minerals, and hope to meet with new substances. I have a bit of chromate of iron for you. Specie is not scarce by any means, in proportion to the riches of the people.

Friday, 26th.—I have been with the Abbé Haüy all day and M. Vauquelin: with them I am considered a *bon ami.* This afternoon at five o'clock the guns fired, on the receipt of the news of the definitive treaty being signed. The Louvre and a few houses are illuminated this night; but it is very few:—the streets are, as usual, perfectly tranquil: we have no mob breaking the windows of houses that are not instantly subservient to their commands: probably a more general illumination may take place in a few days. The most active scenes here are the coffee-houses: every body there is employed as actively as possible in playing little games, and up to the ears in nothing.

The shops are mere holes in general. Excuse this medley: I hope my next will be more interesting. My book is in great fame,* and it will be advertised as soon as Detterville can obtain a few copies. I shall present the Abbé Haüy, Le Levre, and Patrin, one each.

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* *The Mineralogy of Derbyshire, with a description of the most interesting Mines in the North of England, in Scotland, and in Wales; and an Analysis of Mr. Williams's work, entitled, "The Mineral Kingdom, with a Glossary of Terms used by Miners."*— London, 1802, 8vo.

MR. C. BUTLER TO MR. PINKERTON.

Lincoln's Inn, March 21st, 1802.

By an application to the Court of Chancery you might procure an order of the court, enjoining them not to proceed to sell the copies; * and, in consequence of this, they would lie dead on their hands. I know of no other redress; but it would have the effect of blasting their characters. I should think a fair way of settling the matter amicably will be dividing the profits between you, after allowing them the price of the paper and the printer's bill. I have been told that Boswell stood at the press, counted the sheets, and then saw the press broke up. I have very long wished to see you; but, fortunately or unfortunately, my time is so much engrossed by my profession that I have not been able to reach you.

I have finished my Account of the Koran and the Zendavesta: if you would like to see my manuscript, I shall have great pleasure in sending it to you.

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* The large-paper copies of the *Modern Geography*, respecting which there seems to have arisen, immediately upon the appearance of the book, a difference between Mr. Pinkerton and his publishers, Messrs. Cadell and Davies. On this Mr. Pinkerton consulted Mr. Butler; and it was agreed that the point in dispute should be referred to the decision of him and Alderman Cadell; but the latter soon after died, and the matter long remained unsettled.—*See Cadell and Davies' Letter of April 27th*, 1803.

The Edda and the Vedams remain. I doubt whether I shall attempt either: all our knowledge of the latter we owe to Sir William Jones's Discourses, which rather excite than satisfy our curiosity. Mr. Herbert Marsh's Account of the Origin of the Gospels is the most extraordinary work which has made its appearance for some years; but it must be read with great attention. If you wish to see it, I will send you a copy of it: he has given me half-a-dozen for my friends. Dr. Geddes has not left behind him a single sheet for the continuation of his work.

MR. MAWE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Paris, April 18th, 1802.

I have called on M. De Bure, but was not fortunate enough to find him at home. M. Van Praet I saw yesterday: he made many inquiries after you, and desired his best compliments. I begged the favor of him to give me his opinion of the books you inquire after, to which he readily consented. Finding him desirous to serve me, I left your letter with him; and he promised to send me written particulars to-morrow. I waited on Mr. Beckford; but, finding I could not see him, I left a note, stating you requested me to call, &c., also my address.

I fear not but I shall be soon able to pick you up a good collection of rock specimens. De La-

métrie has promised me his assistance; so has the Abbé Haüy; and I have received many civilities from Le Levre, the president of the Council of Mines. He received an order on Friday to prepare to go to Elba and Corsica. He discovered the chromate of iron, &c. in his travels in the Pyrenees: Fagus is expected every day. I have given Le Levre, of the Council of Mines, one of your books; also the National Library; and I will as soon as possible execute the remainder of your commissions.

To-day is the day appointed for the restoration of religion, and for the fête of the general peace. All the consuls, &c. &c. &c. went to Notre Dame amidst the greatest concourse of people I ever saw. The day was ushered in by the firing of cannons, which have been firing all day; and the greatest preparations are making in the Jardin des Tuileries for a grand illumination. The walls that inclose the garden are all illuminated: garlands of lamps are hung over the heads of the statues in the Tuileries: that building is richly decorated with lamps: all over the garden are triangles fifteen feet high, fixed in the ground full of lamps: rows of these betwixt all the trees.

This is the first Sunday I have seen the shops shut. The weather is very fine here, and the foliage beautiful. These fêtes suit the Parisians: all descriptions are out; and I never beheld any place so thronged. On the average here appear to be four females to one male. I am sorry to be informed the establishing the bishops, clergy, &c. does not meet the opinion of the army. Many

generals are living on scanty pay; and they are much dissatisfied at the clergy being voted salaries, when they are so poor, and are very much displeased with the Consul. His carriage was drawn by eight horses to-day; and the streets through which he passed were covered with sand. It is now seven o'clock in the evening—I must go and take a peep at the garden, and will conclude this to-morrow.

Thank God I begin to think it is possible I may learn French! The Tuileries made the most brilliant appearance I ever saw: four rows of lamps horizontal, as close as they could be placed, were fixed along the mouldings of the different orders of architecture: around all the windows were placed lamps: in the arches and niches where the statues stand, garlands of lamps were hung: it was the richest piece of illumination I ever beheld. So was the garden: the edges of the ponds of water which do not rise six inches above the ground, were illuminated. All the public buildings, as the Mint, &c. &c. were equally rich. The houses in the principal streets were illuminated by lamps on the outside: those that were not, were taken no notice of. The streets were as quiet as on other occasions: the concourse of people in the streets all day was very great: Mr. Beckford was in the procession.

SIR WALTER SCOTT TO MR. PINKERTON.

Laswade Cottage, April 24th, 1802.

I esteem myself highly honored by the polite reception which you have given to the *Border Minstrelsy*, and am particularly flattered that so very good a judge of poetical antiquities finds any reason to be pleased with the work. There is no portrait of *the Flower of Yarrow* in existence; nor do I think it very probable that any was ever taken. Much family anecdote concerning her has been preserved among her descendants, of whom I have the honor to be one. The epithet of the *Flower of Yarrow* was in later times bestowed upon one of her immediate posterity, Miss Mary Lillias Scott, daughter of John Scott, Esq. of Harden, and celebrated for her beauty in the pastoral song of Tweedside; I mean that set of modern words which begins, "What beauties does Flora disclose." This lady I myself remember very well; and I mention her to you lest you should receive any inaccurate information, owing to her being called, like her predecessor, "*The Flower of Yarrow.*" There was a portrait of this latter lady in the collection at Hamilton, which the present Duke transferred, through my hands, to Lady Diana Scott, relict of the late Walter Scott, Esq. of Harden; which picture was vulgarly, but inaccurately, supposed to have been a resemblance of the original Mary Scott, daughter of Philip Scott of Dryhope, and married to *auld Wat* of Harden in

the middle of the sixteenth century. I shall be particularly happy if, upon any future occasion, I can in the slightest degree contribute to advance your valuable and patriotic labors.

MR. MAWE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Paris, May 2nd, 1802.

Unfortunately the National Library is only open on particular days, and at particular times. I am quite astonished Van Praet has not sent your letter and his opinion, as he promised. I have been four times, and could not meet with him: I have written and received no answer: my servant has been there almost all day, and has returned without being able to speak to or see him—I am out of patience, and have sent him again. My French master has promised me a list of the modern coins in the morning, which shall be introduced in this. The Abbé Haüy has promised me to describe the rocks; and I am sure I shall be able to do you more justice by taking a little time. I consider Gillet the best judge of any man here: I shall soon be better acquainted with them all. Lamétrie has mentioned my book in his work.* He has called to invite me to see his collection, but I really have not had time, but mean to go to-day.

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* M. De Lamétrie, who was Professor of Natural History at the College of France, was also one of the principal conductors of the *Journal de Physique.*

Monday night, 10 *o'clock.*—I have this moment received Monsieur Van Praet's letter, an exact copy of which you shall have on the other side.* I have seen Lamétrie's collection of rocks, &c. The specimens he received from Werner are extremely well chosen, and finely marked: they are about three inches, or three and a half, by about two and a half or three inches, and about one and a half or two inches thick, nearly all of a size, and the fractures very perfect. The *savans* here seem to be divided about horn-stones and basalts: for instance, one calls this a horn-stone that another calls a basalt, &c. I was extremely surprised, on looking over this collection, not to find any one rock like our English: our granites, limes, porphyries, &c. &c., are extremely different in appearance. Lamétrie showed me some amygdaloids, which he said were the same as the Derbyshire toad-stone; but in this instance theory gives way to practice—the amygdaloid is quite a different substance; and I think our toad-stone is quite unknown here except by the name.

This collection is quite a lesson, and I will endeavor to profit by it. Lamétrie says it will be six months at least before such a collection can be got. I did not ask the price: your next will inform me if I shall send for one. It is a pity there should be so many names to one subject; for instance, I have pearl-stone from Vienna, and the same in

* As this letter merely refers to books which were then in the course of publication and have since appeared, it has no longer any interest, and I have therefore refrained from publishing it.

London under a different name: I fear it will be long before the naturalists agree to our method of naming, &c.

I have been with M. De Bure to-day, who says he has not heard of a map of North America which you mention. I will endeavor to send two of your Arrangements to Werner, though I have but one left out of the four you sent. One I gave the National Library, another to Le Levre, one of the council of mines, and one to Father Pini, the director of mines in Italy: the fourth I have, and it is never with me, owing to my lending it. I have been liberal to some characters here; but it does not seem to me that they can part with any thing, except the Abbé Haüy: for instance, I have given many of this council of mines and professors, a variety of articles without receiving one single return. That I do not mind: they probably are poor, and value their rocks more than I do. Say in your next if I shall send you a small box direct. The appearance of these rocks, in such fine order and so well marked, is striking: you shall have as fine a collection of rocks as any in Europe in a short time. I will endeavor, with your permission, to make your collection a child of my own. I will get Dolomieu's last voyage.

Wisar was here when I arrived, with an interesting collection which he could not sell: he gave them away. Unfortunately, I did not meet with him, but have bought some of his affairs from others. M. De Bure informs me the communication betwixt Madrid and here is not very difficult: he has many Spanish books, but no cata-

logue: he seems a very intelligent and obliging man: he does not know if the numbers of the travels now publishing in Spain can be had separate. I will omit no opportunity of using every means to procure you the information you request, and beg for an answer as soon as possible.

MR. MAWE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Paris, May 14th, 1802.

I this day received your esteemed favor dated the 4th. I am exceedingly hurt that I should write any thing to give you a moment's uneasiness. I too plainly see your mind is much hurt, and would do any thing could I administer any relief. I beg leave to assure you, my dear Sir, that your letter was construed in the true sense of genuine friendship, which demands my sincerest thanks. My letter to you in the book was intended to convey a sense of my own ignorance, and the improvement I hoped to make by your correspondence. Whatever I may have written was written with the purest intentions; and I never felt myself more happy in offering my poor services to you than at this moment. I am sensible, Sir, how these matters hurt your nerves and prey upon your feelings, which in the end must have a serious effect on your health. I wish I could add any thing to give you pleasure, and to reinstate myself in your former opinion.

What I meant by there being here many mineral-beggars was alluding to the following:—Here are many professors of mines, mineralogy, &c., counsellors, keepers of cabinets, &c. &c., and their *dependants*, some of whom have condescended to little tricks. *More than one* has brought me mere rubbish, and, judging me ignorant, assured me of the rarity and value of the article, at the same time choosing a collection of my most valuable minerals. When I have been under the necessity of informing them I have bought better than the piece, or perhaps two pieces which they have brought, at two livres each, and therefore cannot value their minerals as they do, but with pleasure will beg their acceptance of a piece or two, they never have had liberality enough to return the compliment. These I call worse than beggars.

Haüy, Pini, Lamétrie, Le Levre, and other respectable names, are very different in their dealings: they, I believe, are men of liberality. Pini has given me a receipt that he has received minerals of me to the value of 28*l.*, and will return me the amount in kind. He has done me the honor to fill his letter with every mark of esteem: in fact he was almost always with me, wishing to get every information of the mines in England. I am a little hurt at Patrin. I told him you wished for a few rocks: he informed me he knew you very well by reputation: I said you had done him the honor to mention his name in your work with great respect and applause. I gave him fourteen good, and some fine, specimens. I gave him a book of yours and one of mine: he seems much pleased

with me, and asks many questions, but has never offered me one rock specimen, or any thing for your collection. I am sorry you are so impatient for your minerals: I am sensible you would receive much pleasure by having a few at a time; but I wished them to have the new names described by a man of science. As, however, I may perhaps wait a long time before they will take the trouble to do it, I will send you a small box certainly to-morrow, and afterwards from time to time, as I may meet with them.

We have lately had some cold and piercing weather, which is said to have much damaged the vines and fruit: it also has occasioned many complaints, as sore throats, &c.

The following are the coins of the republic in circulation: they have coined some gold, but I cannot even learn the exact amount: they are very rare to meet with:—

Copper, { centime. / 5 centimes, a sol. / decime, two sols.

Silver, { 75 centimes, 15 sols. / 150 centimes, 30 sols. / 500 centimes, 100 sols, or five-livre piece.

De Lamétrie's collection of rocks has cost him above 15*l.*, Patrin informs me; by which it seems the German gentlemen know how to value what they give credit to: I think them very dear. Haüy's System of Mineralogy is in great esteem here; and he is considered to understand well the rocks. He commences his course of lectures at the *Jardin des Plantes*, on Saturday. I gave him

the only remaining book I had of yours. I received six, and made a mistake by saying four. I have given them away to men of science. Lamétrie says he does not know of any immediate channel to send one or two to Werner; but he will let me know when such presents itself. The minerals that I have sent Mrs. Mawe are what I have obtained in general by exchange: any of them that you should like are at your service; and should you think the price too high, it is of no consequence; it shall be made lower. I have chromate of iron, phosphate of ditto, and many others, I hope interesting, for you. Lamétrie pays me much attention, and has more than once requested me to write a description of the veins, &c.: he is reviewing my small work, which, I believe, will appear in his next publication. Almost all the amateurs are in the country: therefore I do not expect to stay here more than three weeks longer; but in October, if all be well, I will attend them again. Pray make me as useful as you can while I stay, and assure yourself it will give me pleasure to render myself useful.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

No. 26, Lower Eaton Street, Pimlico,
May 15th, 1802.

I have at last received the *Complaint and Poems*, for which I return you my best thanks. If you

know Mr. Dalzell, I beg you will express to him my pleasure in his publication.

I have not heard one word from Mr. Gibson, and am so sick of this business, which seems endless, that I know not what to think.

The week after next I think of a trip to Paris, where it will give me pleasure if I can serve your learned researches. Perhaps you could use the freedom to apply to Mr. Fox for a letter or two of introduction for me, as his name would carry great weight; and I might perhaps be able to serve him, as being more conversant in the investigation of manuscripts.

Pray let me hear from you directly.

MR. S. HAMILTON* TO MR. PINKERTON.

London, July 15th, 1802.

I have delayed answering your letter for some days, in expectation of meeting with a person going to Paris, by whom I could convey this letter, as well as the Reviews you desire; but, as I have not been fortunate enough to meet with any one, I think it proper to delay the answer no longer. The booksellers, to whom I sent twenty-five copies of the Critical Review for January and February 1802, and an Appendix, to show the nature of the plan, are M. de Bure,

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* Proprietor of the Critical Review.

Rue Serpente, and M. Levrault, Quai Voltaire. I of course sent a letter with each parcel, to inform them I had been recommended to them, to know if they were likely to open a correspondence with me for the sale of the Review, and also to know, if they did agree to open such a correspondence, what probable chance there was of success in the sale; begging them also to inform me how I should send in future: to all which questions I have received no answer from either of the parties. You will therefore oblige me by calling on these booksellers, to ask them if they are agreeable to become the venders of the Critical Review at Paris; and, if so, to give you their answer to my letter to them, which contained my ideas of the method they should pursue to promote the sale of the Review, &c.

If De Bure and Levrault should decline the correspondence solicited, and you should think, from any conversation you may have with them upon the subject, that it will still be worth while to open a correspondence in Paris, you will further oblige me by proposing it to any bookseller you may think most proper; and the result of your application you can favor me with at your leisure. It is by no means my wish you should put yourself to the slightest inconvenience to oblige me; but, as you will doubtless meet with many curious and entertaining books, you will probably be able to furnish us with two or three good articles for the next appendix, without breaking in upon any of your numerous engagements.

I have been importuned by two persons to take

a share in the following book: a Description of the Paintings in the Louvre, with colored engravings. I should be glad to have your opinion if you think it will answer. There is no work of the sort in England, except that by Mr. Griffiths and Mrs. Cosway, which is very bad. It displays no execution; the plates are merely drawn, and then colored with two colors like little saints. They are also printed in compartments, like the present compartments of the Louvre; although these are altering every day. I believe one of the plates for our work is finished; and, if it is in your way to call upon the artist, M. Pierre Ledet, 22, Rue Neuve des Petits Champs, and make use of the name of Florian, who is Ledet's brother-in-law, he will show you the plate; and you will then be able to give me your opinion whether you think it will be worth while to proceed, or drop the undertaking. Cannot we take a certain number to London, worked off in Paris, and then work off another set to sell in Paris, and make it do between both? I shall be glad to have your sentiments upon the subject as soon as possible.

The city election is ended by the return of all the old representatives except Lushington, who retires, and Alderman Price takes his seat: they were opposed by a Mr. Travers and Sir Watkin Lewes. Combe continued at the head of the poll all along, although he was prohibited, by a resolution of the common hall, from canvassing for votes. Thornton and Tierney have been returned for Southwark, although the latter was hard run by a Sir Thomas Turton, who opposed them.

Westminster has been contested by a contemptible person of the name of Graham, a sheriff's broker in Chancery Lane. He polled more votes than any person could imagine; but he has this day given up the contest in favor of Fox and Lord Gardner. In Middlesex, Mainwaring is opposed by Sir Francis Burdett; and it is thought by some he will beat Mainwaring, as he has great interest in the county, and his father-in-law, Coutts the banker, has declared he will spend 70,000*l.* to secure his election. However, Mainwaring was nearly four hundred a head of Burdett yesterday, (the second day.) The contest is carried on with great animosity, and riots have already taken place. I have given you this history of the elections, as I thought you would like to know the state of them.

MR. ARTHUR AIKIN TO MR. PINKERTON.

August 26th, 1802.

I received your letter about three weeks ago, while I was in Wales, and returned you an immediate answer. I fear, however, from not having heard again, that my letter has never reached you.

With regard to the terms, &c. of the Abridgment of the Geography, we are perfectly agreed; and I have already begun upon it. I wish to know, however, whether it would not be advisable to introduce under each article a short table of the

provinces and provincial capitals. The omission of these in the quarto has been often remarked to me; and I believe I may venture to say that the octavo would much more readily find its way into schools, and supersede Guthrie, by supplying this deficiency. At all events, however, I shall send nothing to press till I hear from you again. In the introduction, I suppose every thing that is not strictly connected with the use of the globes must be omitted; as theorems, &c. cannot be abridged without rendering them very obscure. The scrap of chemistry and vegetable physiology may surely be entirely left out, with little or no loss.

While you are enjoying the science and various *agrémens* of Paris, I have been paying a visit to my favorite North Wales. I spent three weeks there very satisfactorily, and have added largely to my collection of rock-specimens, many duplicates of which I have reserved for you. Cader Idris and Snowdon engaged the principal part of my attention; and I found a specimen of argillite full of shells at the very summit of the latter of these mountains. I have made some curious observations too on the tendency to a columnar figure that certain of the Welsh horn-stones affect in a very remarkable degree.

If you could pick up for me any publication, giving an account of the decrees of the parliament of Paris against the use of antimony, and the controversy that followed, I should be obliged to you. I want also a chemical biography; either in German, French, or Latin, but cannot hear of any.

MR. KIRWAN* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Dublin, Oct. 10th, 1802.

I have lately acquired and perused with great pleasure many parts of your Modern Geography. No science stood more in want of improvement, and few could succeed so completely as you have done. As I make no doubt but soon a new edition will be required, I am persuaded you will receive with pleasure any information that can contribute to its perfection. This emboldens me to communicate to you the following remarks.

First, I find you often quote *Marshall's Travels into Denmark and Sweden:* this work I have strong reasons to think an imposture. Mr. Sheridan, who was envoy to Sweden, and wrote an account of the revolution, told me he was in Sweden a year or two after Marshall said he had been there, and inquired of all his acquaintance in Stockholm

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* Richard Kirwan, Esq., author of *Elements of Mineralogy*, &c. &c. &c. This letter was inclosed in another, a short one, from Mr. J. C. Walker, in which he tells Mr. Pinkerton that an account of the gold mines of Wicklow, by Mr. Kirwan, drawn up for the use of government, and with no intention of its ever being published, had just appeared in the *Transactions of the Dublin Society;* that more particulars regarding the mines were to be found in Frazer's *Statistical Account of the County of Wicklow;* and that he himself believed that gold was once in great abundance there; for that, while writing his *Essay on the Irish Dress*, he had been informed that a shield had once been found in the county of Cork, which weighed six hundred guineas.—Much curious matter upon the same subject is contained in *Vallancey's Collectanea.*

whether they had known or heard of such a person, and all denied they had; but, what is more, no such noblemen as Marshall named ever existed in Sweden, as Mr. Sheridan was assured. This will lead you to inform yourself farther about the fact.

Secondly, You lament the Russians had never explored the Eastern coast of the Caspian. Now you will find, in the fourth volume of Pallas's *Neue Nordische Beyträge*, that they have explored the province of Ghilan on the Eastern coast.

Thirdly, You will find in the seventh volume of the same work, what will be still more agreeable to you, an account of some islands opposite the northern coast of Siberia, or that of the Tschutsi, called Lachofschian islands, from one Lachofs, who discovered them in the year 1774, opposite to Sevotoinoss—the latitude or longitude are not given. In these islands immense heaps of elephants' teeth have been found. But, what is more extraordinary, beyond these islands he discovered what he thinks to be a continent, extending to the North Pole, and in which he traced some inhabitants. I now, on a second reading, find the islands to lie in the seventy-second degree of latitude, in the middle space opposite to the mouths of the Jana and Indigirca rivers. The government noticed and endeavored to prosecute this discovery, but was impeded by stormy weather in 1778. The whole account is worth transcribing in your next edition.

Permit me to add, that, as I highly approve of your attention to mountains, rivers, forests, and

mines, animals and vegetables, which often form the distinguishing features of a country, I cannot so readily agree that they should be distinguished, and arranged, and often split, from their relation to the governing powers, or the rank of those powers, all which are liable to endless vicissitudes. However, you probably have already weighed these considerations.

MR. DOUCE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Gower Street, Nov. 5th, 1802.

I thank you for your inquiries after small brass, which may yet be successful. As to sulphurs, though I should be glad of many of the rare casts from coins in the National Cabinet, it would be useless to trouble you, as no doubt we shall have them by wholesale in London by-and-by. Do you not think that Tassie might open a negociation for these in the way of exchange? You will perhaps hint this to the proprietor at Paris. Weston has brought some with him; but I do not like their black-lead imitation of silver. Tassie's method is neater and more pleasant to the eye; and I think, if they were in his manner, there might be some mark to distinguish the metals.

I have examined your *Geography* with the completest satisfaction, as to its execution. I regard with equal pleasure and admiration its precision of arrangement, the elaborate researches in every

page, and the judicious compression of your materials. I had before praised the beauty of the maps. I find in my copy two or three of unequal merit in the impression; and you will perhaps be kind enough, on your return, to procure for me better impressions before I bind the volumes.

What you say of the mammoth is very good. I wish you would further inform yourself on this subject from what the French naturalists at Paris may have to say about it, or from any remains in the Cabinet of Natural History. I mention this, because I have just seen with much gratification the most perfect skeleton of the *American* mammoth that has been found; and I hope it will not move off before your return. It belongs to a very well-informed native of New York, and was found about fifteen miles from that city. The height is eleven feet; length more than twenty.*

Some of our antiquaries here are closely occupied in explaining the Greek part of the Rosetta inscription. Weston† is the Coryphæus on this

* This skeleton was for some time exhibited in Pall-mall, and is now deposited in the museum at Boston in America. The public exhibition of it was very much the means of calling the attention of naturalists to the subject of the existence of these gigantic animals, whose remains have been since so admirably illustrated by Cuvier. Mr. Pinkerton did not take the hint here given to pursue the inquiry in the second edition of his *Geography;* but contents himself there with saying that the labors of a late French naturalist have evinced that such remains often belong to animals long since extirpated, of which he has traced more than twenty kinds.

† Rev. Stephen Weston, lately deceased; a most multifarious and ingenious writer upon antiquities of all descriptions,

occasion. Professor Heyne has just sent over an elaborate dissertation, which will soon be read at Somerset House. I wish you would recommend to your bookseller to send all the remarks of the French literati on this subject, which will sell rapidly just now. I mention this, because it is labor in vain to get our people to order them. I am sick of giving orders to De Boffe, &c.

I have heard of you from M. De la Rue; but he does not relate to me the particulars of his meeting with you. I suppose it was at the National Library, to which you are no doubt a frequent and welcome visitor.

If you find any Egyptian antiquities that are cheap and portable, pray pick them up, when you have supplied yourself, if you collect that way. They must surely be very plentiful at Paris. Edwards has just bought eleven pieces of Greek and Etruscan pottery, one of them the finest in the world, formerly the king of Naples', and the *chef d'œuvre* in his collection: it measures more than four feet high.*

M. T—— is, I suppose, the abbé of that name, who formerly brought over medals for Cracherode

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Roman, Greek, Hebrew, Phœnician, Chinese, &c. He left, however, to other and far abler hands the elucidation of the inscriptions upon the Rosetta stone.

* This celebrated Greek vase, long known by the name of *Il gran vaso del Capo di Monte*, was sold at the auction of Mr. Edwards' library in 1815, and produced 700*l*. To the catalogue of the sale were added two plates of it: Winkelman had previously described it in his *Histoire de l'Art chez les Anciens*.

and Townley. The latter is, I am told, breaking very fast.

When I see you, I shall give you the particulars of my detection of a curious literary forgery of some supposed letters of Brunetto Latini in England, that had been periodically given in the Monthly Magazine.

I wish you might be able to pick up for me any manuscripts of the French poetry or romances.

Adieu! my dear Sir. I shall be glad to hear from you once more before you return; and as soon after as convenient, that I may gratify my impatience to converse with you.

MR. A. AIKIN TO MR. PINKERTON.

Broad Street Buildings, Nov. 13th, 1802.

Nearly the whole of the Geography is ready to be delivered to the printer; but I wish to know whether you would choose to have the printing delayed, in order to wait for the settlement of the indemnities in Germany. From this you will conclude that the printers have hitherto made but very slow advances; and, indeed, though they have had about 300 pages of the manuscript in their possession for several weeks, I have as yet only received one proof-sheet. Their dilatoriness has, however, not induced any relaxation on my part; and I am now within a fortnight at farthest of the conclusion. If, therefore, you determine

not to wait, I shall send, immediately upon receipt of your answer, the whole of the first volume, and about 200 or 300 pages of the second, and shall proceed to the despatch of the rest with all possible expedition.

I hear on all hands high commendations of the quarto;* and the skill shown in disentangling the perplexities of Asiatic geography is much admired. It appears to be the general opinion, however, that the provinces and chief subdivisions of Europe should be detailed more at length. I have also heard it remarked that the continents of America and Africa are treated of too briefly, and especially that the West Indies would admit of a more ample description. I think also that it will be of advantage in another edition to prune almost all the European botany, &c., and be more sparing in the use of Linnean names. There are also some minute errors, or rather inadvertences, which I have made a list of, and will give you when we meet next.

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* Nearly at this time, although the book was but just out, Mr. Pinkerton received the most satisfactory assurances of the favor of the public, in a letter from Messrs. Cadell and Co., who say, "We have the pleasure of informing you that the *Geography* is going on extremely well, and that there have been at least eight hundred sold."

THE ABBE DE LA RUE* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Caen, Fév. 22, 1803.

J'ai relu avec autant de satisfaction que d'empressement, Monsieur, vos *Recherches sur l'Ecosse*, et sur-tout votre *Dissertation sur les anciens Scythes*. Vous avez bien raison de dire que ce dernier ouvrage découvre réellement un nouveau monde aux historiens, en leur faisant connoître la véritable origine des nations de l'Europe moderne. Loin de m'éclairer, Pelloutier† et M'Pherson n'avoient fait qu'embrouiller mes idées sur ces tems anciens; et j'avois relégué parmi les fables tous leurs récits sur les Celtes, parce que je ne voyois

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TRANSLATION.

THE ABBE DE LA RUE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Caen, Feb. 22nd, 1803.

I have again read, with equal satisfaction and zeal, your Inquiry into the early History of Scotland, and your Dissertation upon the ancient Scythians. You are assuredly justified in saying that this last work really opens a new world to historians, by bringing them acquainted with the true origin of the nations of modern Europe. Pelloutier and M'Pherson, far from enlightening me, had only confused my ideas with regard to those remote æras. I had made up my mind that all they

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* A Memoir by the Abbé De la Rue on the Bayeux Tapestry, will be found in the seventeenth volume of the *Archæologia*. He also published a History of Caen, in two vols. 8vo. He resided long in England, where he is well known as one of the most laborious and learned antiquaries of the present day, especially in what regards the ancient duchy of Normandy.

† Pelloutier published *Histoire des Celtes, des Gaulois, et des Germains*, Paris, 1770, two volumes, quarto. This work was afterwards reprinted with corrections by Chiniac, in 8 volumes, 12mo.

nulle part que cette nation nous eut laissé des monumens capables de la faire distinguer des peuples sauvages. Vous avez seul porté le flambeau dans cette partie de notre histoire; et la république des lettres vous devra beaucoup pour cet important service.

Comme j'ai autant de confiance dans votre obligeance, que dans vos lumières, permettez-moi, Monsieur, de vous consulter sur quelques difficultés qui m'arrêtent dans un travail qui n'est pas étranger au vôtre. Vous savez que la Basse Normandie a fait jadis partie du *Littus Saxonicum;* et les Saxons n'ont pas descendu sur nos côtes, sans se fixer sur plusieurs points de notre territoire. Grégoire de Tours parle des *Saxones Bajocassini* vers les années 578 et 590; et postérieurement encore les capitulaires de Charles le Chauve, des années 844 et 854, appellent *Otlingua Saxo-*

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said respecting the Celts was fabulous, because I could no where see among the traces of this nation any memorial to distinguish them from other hordes of savages. You first have enlightened this part of our history with the torch of science; and the literary world is infinitely indebted to you for this important service.

Feeling no less confidence in your desire to oblige, than in your talents and acquirements, I trust you will permit me to consult you on the subject of some difficulties that have occurred to me in a work which is not unconnected with yours. You are aware that Lower Normandy formerly made a part of the *Littus Saxonicum*; and that the Saxons did not land upon our coast without forming establishments on many points of our territory. Gregory of Tours speaks of the *Saxones Bajocassini* about the years 578 and 590; and, subsequently, the chartularies of Charles the Bald, dated in the years 844 and 854, designate a portion of the diocese of Bayeux by the appellation

nia, une partie du diocèse de Bayeux: enfin des auteurs modernes nomment cette même partie *la Petite Saxe*. Les Saxons y ont donc formé des établissemens.

Parmi eux, je distingue la ville de Caen, dont le nom primitif, *Cathem* et *Cathom*, est Saxon. De *Cathem*, on a fait successivement *Cadem*, *Cahem*, *Caem*, et enfin *Caen;* comme de *Cathom*, on a fait *Cadom* et *Cadomus*. Toutes ces dénominations sont constantes, par les chartes et par les poésies de nos anciens Trouveurs. Plusieurs des rues de cette ville, et beaucoup de paroisses dans les plaines qui l'environnent, portent des noms tirés de la langue Saxonne: plusieurs même de nos paroisses sont appelés comme celles de l'Angleterre; et nous avons, comme vous, Douvres, Ver, Rye, Ross, Oistreham, Granton, Bures, Bray, &c.

St. Régnobert, évêque de Bayeux, vers l'année 620, convertit à la religion Chrétienne les Saxons

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of *Otlingua Saxonia*. This same place is by modern authors named *Little Saxony:* consequently, the Saxons must have made settlements amongst us.

Among such settlements I reckon the town of Caen, whose original name, *Cathem* or *Cathom*, is Saxon. From *Cathem* came successively *Cadem*, *Cahem*, *Caem*, and finally *Caen:* as from *Cathom* have been derived *Cadom* and *Cadomus*. All these denominations are proved to have existed by our charters, and by the poetry of our ancient troubadours. Many of the streets of this town, and several of the villages in the surrounding plains, have names taken from the Saxon language. There are even some of the latter which bear the same names as yours in England; as Dover, Ver, Rye, Ross, Oisterham, Granton, Bures, Bray, &c.

About the year 620, St. Regnobert, Bishop of Bayeux, converted the Saxons of his diocese to Christianity, and built

de son diocèse : il fonda quatre églises à Caen : enfin, les faits et le langage constatent la fondation de cette ville par ces peuples. Mais j'ai entrepris de prouver aussi cette vérité historique par les mœurs et les usages Saxons conservés en partie et depuis tant de siècles dans notre ville. Il seroit inutile d'entrer dans des détails qui vous fatigueroient : je ne veux, Monsieur, que solliciter vos lumières sur quelques difficultés qui m'arrêtent.

C'est dans la basse classe du peuple qu'il faut chercher les anciens usages ; et souvent, même quand ces usages n'existent plus, il en reste encore des traces dans des expressions populaires devenues proverbiales. Par exemple, chez nous, quand une femme du peuple veut épouvanter son enfant méchant, elle le menace du *goubelin*.

J'ai consulté les *Observations on Popular Antiqui-*

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at Caen four churches. In short, both ancient tradition and the peculiarities of our language establish the fact of the foundation of our town by the Saxons; but it is my intention to confirm the truth of historical records by means of the manners and customs which have been partially preserved for so many centuries in Caen. It were useless, Sir, to enter into details that could not but annoy you. I only wish to solicit information as to some difficulties in my way.

It is among the lower classes of the community that we must look for the traces of old customs; and frequently, even when these customs have ceased to exist, the vestiges of them are to be found in popular expressions, which, in the course of time, have been turned into proverbs. Thus, for example, when a low-bred woman among us wants to frighten a naughty child, she threatens him with the *goblin*.

On this point I have consulted the recent edition of

ties de M. Bourne, avec les additions de M. Brand. Ces auteurs parlent, l'un et l'autre, de ces génies que les Anglois appellent *hobgoblins ;* mais ce qu'ils disent ne me satisfait nullement. Ces antiquaires ont une manie trop familière aux lettrés de votre nation; c'est de voir partout le papisme ; et, quand ils ont pu lui donner un coup de pied en passant, ils croient avoir satisfait à toutes les objections, et remporté la plus belle victoire. Je ne nie cependant pas, Monsieur, que Rome Chrétienne n'ait pas porté partout des abus, comme Rome Payenne avoit porté partout ses armes. Mais les peuples avoient des mœurs et des usages avant que d'embrasser le Christianisme : cette religion ne les a pas tous anéantis ; et, si elle leur en fit adopter d'autres, l'antiquaire éclairé doit les connoître tous, les distinguer les uns des autres, en différencier les époques, et en

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Bourne's *Observations on Popular Antiquities,* published by Mr. Brand. Both these authors speak of a sort of fairies which the English call *hobgoblins ;* but their remarks on the subject by no means satisfy me. Your English antiquaries, and indeed your literary men in general, have a species of mania not uncommon in the nation, that of seeing Popery in everything ; and, if they can but give this unfortunate system of religion a kick as they go by, they think they have satisfied every objection, and gained a glorious victory. I am not disposed, Sir, to deny that Christian Rome has spread her abuses over the world just as Pagan Rome did the power of her arms ; but the manners and customs of nations were established anteriorly to the establishment of Christianity. This religion by no means annihilated them : it only caused others to be adopted ; and the enlightened antiquary must be acquainted with them all, must distinguish each from other, must mark the difference in the epochs when

constater les altérations, ou bien ce n'est alors qu'un antiquiste, et non un antiquaire.

Le mot *goubelin* peut-il venir de *God Belenus?* Ce mot seroit alors composé du Tudesque et du Celte; et cet assemblage me semble difficile à concevoir. D'abord, les Saxons n'ont pu adorer Belenus: ils tenoient trop à leur religion. Il est cependant vrai que cette divinité avoit été honorée dans l'Armorique, et particulièrement dans la diocèse de Bayeux, suivant le poète Ausone. Mais, lorsque les Saxons y arrivèrent, le diocèse étoit converti à l'évangile: il avoit ses évêques depuis long-tems; et si les Saxons connurent Belenus, ce ne fut sans doute que par les indigènes, qui depuis leur Christianisme dûrent le leur peindre comme un génie malfaisant. Alors les Saxons, sans s'écarter de la religion d'Oudin, ou sans préjudicier à l'Evangile, s'ils l'avoient déjà adopté,

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they existed, and must determine the alterations they underwent, or he is only a pretender to knowledge, and not a real possessor of it.

Now, can the word *goblin* be a corruption of *God Belenus?* In this case it would be a mixture of German and Celtic, which appears to me scarcely probable. In the first place, it was not likely that the Saxons should worship Belenus, for they were too much attached to their own religion: nevertheless, it is certain that this deity was honored in Armorica, and especially in the diocese of Bayeux, according to the poet Ausonius. At the time of the arrival of the Saxons, however, the diocese was converted to Christianity, and had long had its bishops; and, if the Saxons were acquainted with Belenus, they could only have acquired this knowledge through the natives, who, subsequently to their conversion, must have regarded him as an evil spirit. The Saxons, therefore, without

purent prendre sur *Belenus* l'idée qu'en avoient les habitans du pays, et l'appeler *God Belenus*, dont ensuite on auroit fait *goubelin*. Voilà, Monsieur, une première conjecture.

Mais ce *goubelin* ne seroit-il point plutôt le *God Oudin*, le dieu des peuples du nord, et par là même des Saxons venus dans notre diocèse, qui y ont formé des établissemens, fondé des villes, et, par conséquent, apporté leur religion? Ils l'y pratiquèrent même pendant plusieurs siècles; puisque St. Régnobert ne les convertit que vers l'année 620 et 625: alors, Monsieur, ne sembleroit-il pas naturel que le peuple, à qui l'on n'enlève jamais entièrement ses habitudes primitives, eût conservé le mot, quand il n'a plus la chose, et qu'il menace encore d'Oudin, quand il n'adore plus ce Dieu? Voilà une seconde conjecture, que je

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either deviating from the religion of their forefathers, or doing violence to the Gospel, supposing them to have already adopted it, might easily have taken the idea of Belenus already entertained by the inhabitants of the country, and, calling him in mockery, *God Belenus*, might have corrupted these words into *goblin*. Such, Sir, is my first conjecture.

Is it not, however, rather possible that *goblin* may have been *God Odin*, the deity worshipped by the northern nations, and consequently by the Saxons, who, establishing themselves in our diocese, there founded towns, and necessarily imported their religion? In this same religion they also persevered for many centuries; for it was not till the year 620 or 625 that they were converted by St. Regnobert. Hence it appears to me natural that the lower class of people, who never entirely lose their original habits, may have preserved the word long after they had parted with the reality; and may have invoked Odin as a bugbear, though they no longer adored him as a divinity. This, Sir, is my second conjecture; and, if you

vous soumets : peut-être les rejetterez-vous l'une et l'autre ; et alors, comme j'ai beaucoup de confiance dans votre critique, je ferai de même.

Le mot *goubelin* est ancien. Odericus Vitalis* (lib. 5. p. 556,) dit que c'étoit un démon que St. Taurin, premier évêque d'Evreux, avoit chassé

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reject both the one and the other, I have too much confidence in your critical acumen not to be content to do the same.

The word *goblin* is ancient. Odericus Vitalis* tells us that Gobelinus was a demon whom St. Taurinus, first bishop of Bayeux, expelled from a temple of Diana. At the same time it is to be remarked that this historian was acquainted with

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* The passage in the Norman historian is curious; and I therefore quote it entire. It refers to what occurred at the entombment of St. Taurinus: "Sepulto itaque servo Christi, dixit ad populum angelus Dei, 'recedite velocitèr, ne involvamini ab hostibus. Nunc civitas ista subvertitur; sed nullus vestrûm periclitabitur. Per multa tempora incognitus erit locus iste.' His dictis, nusquam comparuit; et completa sunt omnia ut prædixit. Nam sepulcrum sancti antistitis et anniversarium transitus ejus diu homines latuerunt. Signa quoque nonnulla per eum apud Ebroas adhuc quotidie fiunt. Dæmon enim, quem de Dianæ fano expulit, adhuc in eâdem urbe degit, et in variis frequenter formis apparens, neminem lædit. Hunc vulgus Gobelinum appellat, et per merita Sancti Taurini ab humanâ læsione coercitum usque hodie affirmat. Et quia jussis sancti antistitis sua frangendo simulacra obsecundavit, in baratrum non statim mersus fuit; sed in loco ubi regnaverat pœnas luit, videns salvari homines, quibus jamdudùm ad detrimentum multimodè insultavit."—The name of Belenus is twice mentioned in Ausonius: once in immediate connexion with the city of Bayeux, when, addressing Attius Patera, he says,

"Tu Bajocassis stirpe Druidarum satus,
Si fama non fallit fidem,
Beleni sacratum ducis e templo genus;
Et indè vobis nomina."

d'un temple de Diane. Cependant, cet historien connoissoit le Dieu Oudin comme le Dieu des Saxons (lib. 7. p. 630); et alors on ne voit pas comment il auroit confondu la mythologie des peuples du Nord avec celle des Grecs et des Romains. Cette observation pourroit bien justifier ma seconde conjecture. Belenus Apollon pouvoit bien avoir une statue dans un temple de Diane, et y être révéré; et alors ma première conjecture seroit plus probable. Enfin, du tems d'Oderic Vital on croyoit au goubelin, comme à un génie malfaisant; et aujourd'hui encore, par suite d'une très ancienne habitude, on menace de son influence, sans y croire. Dites-moi, je vous prie, Monsieur, ce que l'on doit définitivement penser à cet égard; et votre *Credo littéraire* sera le mien.

J'attendrai votre réponse pour terminer ma *Dissertation sur la fondation de Caen par les Saxons, et sur la vraie position de l'Otlingua Saxonia de*

Odin as the god of the Saxons; and hence it scarcely seems probable that he should have confounded the mythology of the barbarians of the North with that of the Greeks and Romans. This observation goes far to weaken my second conjecture; so that the first appears the more plausible. Belenus Apollo might have had a statue in some temple dedicated to Diana, and might have been worshipped there. What appears certain is, that, at the time of Odericus Vitalis, the goblin was known as an evil spirit; and that, even at the present day, following the traces of an old custom, although we no longer believe in him, his name is still employed to give influence to our threats. Tell me, I beg of you, what I am to think of all this, and I will bow to and adopt your literary creed.

I shall await your answer with impatience, to enable me to finish my Dissertation on the Foundation of Caen by the

Charles le Chauve ; et je la lirai dans le mois prochain à notre académie de Caen.

Saxons, and upon the true position of Otlingua Saxonia of Charles the Bald.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, March 9th, 1803.

I spoke to Gibson, who is just going to London. He is ashamed of the delay that has taken place, and has given me his word that your affairs shall be settled immediately on his return. He had devolved them last year on his brother, who died suddenly before winding them up; and he owned fairly that he had not had resolution to look at them since. He will return before May.

I am highly gratified to find my Dissertation on Ossian likely to be translated into French. What additions I have made are in the printer's hands; but I am afraid that the new edition of my History, with the Dissertation on Queen Mary, will not be published till next winter. The additions, as far as I recollect, are of little importance, being chiefly imitations to be found in Ossian, to which there is no end. I say so because I am now preparing an edition of Ossian's, or rather M'Pherson's, poems, in prose and rhyme. I have procured above five thousand of M'Pherson's verses, all prior to his Ossian; and from these it will

appear that he was an heroic poet from the very beginning. The design of this edition is to point out in copious notes the numerous sources of M'Pherson's imitations; from which it will be completely proved that the poems, so long considered as original by the whole of Europe, are a mere *Cento*, compiled from the classics, Scriptures, and English poetry, with nothing original in them but the measured prose in which his plagiarisms are disguised. You may judge of my success from this, that I have collected from seven hundred to a thousand imitations, all as strong and as indisputably marked as those produced in my Dissertation. But I do not wish that to be announced till next winter, when I shall be ready for the press; my intention being that my work should be published at the same time with the Erse version, accompanied by the Latin translation beneath, so that the question may be finally and completely decided by a mutual appeal to every man of letters in Europe.

My brother desires me to mention that rock crystals, so cheap in France, if of the topaz color, without flaws, sell at a high price in England at present. Even a Cairngorum seal of the topaz color is from five to nine guineas in Edinburgh; and the purple large crystals, called new Scotch amethysts, are still dearer, though mere quartz crystals. He has no occasion at present for any minerals. I did not meet with your *Geography* till I returned from Orkney. I find it universally introduced, as a work of immense and most valuable information.

THE ABBE HAUY* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Ce Samedi, 23 Avril, 1803.

Je regrette beaucoup que le grand travail qui m'occupe ne me permette pas d'avoir l'honneur d'aller vous voir, ou du moins de répondre, avec tout le développement convenable, à la lettre très obligeante que je viens de recevoir de vous.

M. Tondi, auquel je confie celle-ci, veut bien se charger d'être auprès de vous l'interprète de mes sentimens. Il vous fera part en même temps de la restitution qui a été faite hier par M. Faujas des

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TRANSLATION.

THE ABBE HAUY TO MR. PINKERTON.

Saturday, April 23d, 1803.

I very much regret that my present important occupations have hitherto prevented me from paying my personal respects to you, or even from returning so careful an answer as I could have wished, to the very obliging letter which you had the kindness to write me.

M. Tondi, who has promised to be the bearer of this, will at the same time explain to you how I have been situated; and

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* M. Haüy, who is recently deceased, was one of the Professors at the Museum of Natural History in the Jardin des Plantes, and Member of the National Institute. He published numerous works connected with minerals, especially on the structure of crystals, his observations upon which justly entitled him to be reckoned among the most distinguished mineralogists that have ever existed.

morceaux qui manquoient dans la collection présentée de votre part à l'assemblée administrative des professeurs du Muséum. Quoique les échantillons dont celle-ci étoit composée ne nous parussent pas susceptibles d'être placés dans nos galeries, nous n'avions pas laissé de les regarder comme très-interéssans, soit à raison des localités, soit comme nous étant offerts par un savant dont le mérite seul est fait pour attacher un grand prix à tout ce qui vient de sa main. Mais maintenant nous aurons la satisfaction de voir dans nos galeries plusieurs morceaux choisis parmi ceux que M. Faujas a restitués; et nous ne manquerons pas de faire inscrire sur les étiquettes le nom du naturaliste célèbre auquel nous en sommes redevables, pour lui donner un témoignage public de notre reconnoissance. Agréez, Monsieur, l'expression de la mienne en particulier, et celle des sentimens respectueux que je vous ai voués.

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you will be gratified to hear from him, that we have received from M. Faujas the specimens which were deficient in the collection of minerals presented by you to the National Museum. It did not indeed at first appear to us that the pieces of which this collection was composed were admissible, by reason of their small size, into the cases devoted by us to mineralogy; but we nevertheless did not fail to regard them as highly interesting, as well on account of their habitats, as from respect to the distinguished naturalist who had presented them to us. The case however is now changed; and we with great pleasure find among what has been sent from M. Faujas a number of specimens that will do honor to our galleries: these therefore we shall not fail to display as they deserve, and, by attaching to them tickets with the name of the donor, shall give a public proof of our esteem and our gratitude.

MESSRS. CADELL & DAVIES TO MR. PINKERTON.

London, April 27, 1803.

We are favored with your letter of the 22nd, which we have communicated to Messrs. Longman and Rees, who are in an equal degree with ourselves interested in the subjects on which you write; and, as there are matters in dispute still to be settled, we do not feel ourselves at liberty to act without their concurrence. This reply, therefore, you will understand, conveys to you the united opinions of those gentlemen and ourselves.

You state that we offered to advance 200*l.* for the large-paper copies of the Geography; but this, we have not the smallest hesitation in saying, is wholly and entirely a mistake. We always contended, and still do and ever shall contend, that we had a right to print the stipulated number in any manner, and upon whatever paper, we thought fit: it is therefore not very likely that we should ever have made any such offer. And, if the point was to be submitted to arbitration, and the result thereof should be that you should receive one half of the profit upon the large-paper copies, (which we are confident would not be the case,) a statement of the account would presently show you that you would be very little the better for such a decision.

We did indeed make you a proposal respecting the two hundred and fifty ordinary copies, of which

the letter-press part had been by mistake printed over and above the proper number; which was, to pay you the sum of 200*l.* that had been stipulated in the agreement to be paid on the publication of a second edition, before we sold or even perfected any of those two hundred and fifty copies. This is a proposal that, if accepted, would have placed you in a much better situation than if the mistake had not occurred.

With regard to the *Abridgment*, we notice with some surprise your not replying to the part of our last letter that relates to this subject. You will readily recollect that we were induced to accede to the very high terms you demanded for executing it,* by your expressly stating in your letters, (which are now before us,) that the pains and attention you would bestow upon it would be at least equal to one-third of those you had bestowed upon the original work; and by the farther advantage, as we thought it, of having it then in our power to announce the Abridgment to the public as executed by the author. Notwithstanding which, after receiving the first payment of 100*l.*, you committed the work you had thus undertaken to another person, without consulting or apprising us, and left the kingdom; thereby completely depriving us of every advantage proposed to us by the agreement. You also drew upon us a bill of 50*l.* upon the same account, which, confiding in you, we instantly honored.

Under all these circumstances we are still de-

* See p. 206.

sirous of a general compromise, rather than prolonging differences that must be unpleasant to both parties. We therefore make you the following offer, to which we request your serious attention:—If you will send us a complete discharge, clearly and properly expressed, from all farther demands whatsoever, relating to the first and second editions of the "*Modern Geography*" in quarto, still keeping in view your engagement to revise the work previously to the printing of the second as well as the third edition; and to contribute thereto such additions and corrections as you may judge calculated to give additional value to the work, and authorising us to dispose of all the copies that were printed of the first edition:—If you will at the same time send us a complete discharge from all farther demands whatsoever relating to the *Abridgment*:—If you will also guarantee to us (either by an order for their delivery or any other effectual means,) the immediate return of all the books with which you were furnished by us during the preparation of the work, and which by the agreement were stipulated to be returned immediately on its completion,—we will, on our parts, accept the bill for 200*l.* that you have now drawn upon us (a sum for which, otherwise, you have not the smallest claim upon us;) we will relinquish all claim upon you on the score of your departure from your agreement respecting the Abridgment, though you have received on that account a sum of 50*l.* more than we should have had occasion to pay, had the work been executed by any gentleman

employed by ourselves; and we will consent, that what you are indebted to us for books sent to you at Paris shall remain charged to your account till the payment becomes due to you on the publication of the third edition of the quarto "Geography." We will farther, in order to obviate every thing like a reasonable objection, engage that the second edition of the quarto Geography shall not exceed 1250 copies.

We trust you will presently see the advantage of accepting this offer; but, if you should still think it better to refer the whole to an arbitration, you will find us equally disposed to that mode of settlement, and the bill for 200*l.*, which Mr. Coutts will keep till we receive your answer, must in that case be returned.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

Dublin, April 28th, 1803.

I was favored last night with your obliging letter, for which I beg your acceptance of my best thanks. Availing myself of your goodness, I have drawn up some notices for the gentleman who is doing me the honor to translate my Irish Bards.*

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* I do not find that such a translation was ever published; nor are there any traces in Mr. Pinkerton's correspondence by whom it was projected. The alterations and emendations suggested by Mr. Walker at the close of this letter are numerous, and would be important to the possessor of his volume; but I

Please to give them to him, and at the same time inform him I shall have much pleasure in attending to any commands with which he may favor me. It is right he should be told that the book was the production of a very young man,* leading a gay life, and devoting very little time to study. It was too my first attempt at composition, and it often betrays, I fear, the hand of inexperience. Such as it is, however, it has been indulgently received by the public; and it has brought me some credit, as well on the continent as in this country. It was reviewed very favorably at Rome several times; and many passages from it were translated. I am told too that it was favorably reviewed in France soon after its publication. I once meditated an improved edition; but, as it is not likely I shall carry that intention into execution, I send you now the greater part of the corrections and additions which I have made in my interleaved copy.

If the translation should appear before you leave Paris, perhaps you would be so good as to procure me a copy. If the same gentleman, or any other friend of yours should think it worth while to undertake a translation of the *Historical Memoir on Italian Tragedy*, I should cheerfully communicate some materials I have collected for a supplement.

I am now employed on an Essay on the revival

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did not feel they were of sufficient general interest to justify me in printing them.

* Mr. Walker, who was born in 1762, was consequently only twenty-four years old when his *Essay on the Irish Bards* appeared in 1786.

of the Drama in Italy, in which I treat fully and minutely that very curious and interesting subject. I give long analyses of the early Latin and Italian dramas, and brief memoirs of the respective authors. I have been uncommonly fortunate in regard to materials: I possess, or have had access to, almost every drama necessary for my purpose. The Philodoxeos of Alberti,* and the original Progne of Gregorio Corraro† (I have the Italian

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* Leo Battista Alberti, who lived at the very commencement of the fifteenth century, wrote the comedy here alluded to at the early age of twenty, as he states in the preface. "Non quidem cupio, non peto in laudem trahi, quòd hâc vigesimâ annorum meorum ætate hanc scripserim fabulam." On its first appearance, he handed it about among his friends as the production of Lepidus, an ancient Roman poet; but he soon after avowed it, in a dedication to a revised copy which he presented to Leonello da Este, Marquis of Ferrara. "On its first appearance," says Mr. Roscoe, "when the rage for ancient manuscripts was at its height, Lepidus for a while took his rank with Plautus and with Terence." The younger Aldus printed this play from a manuscript in 1588, as a precious remnant of antiquity, under the title of "Lepidi comici veteris fabula." It is extremely rare; but several extracts from it are to be found in the *Margarita Poetica* of Alberto da Eyb, who erroneously calls the author Carlo Aretino.

† The *Progne* of Corraro, which is styled by Walker "the most celebrated Latin drama of the period," was written by its author at a still earlier age than that at which Alberti composed his *Philodoxeos;* for Corraro was only eighteen years old at the time. But it was not edited till about one hundred years after the death of the author, when the manuscript accidentally fell into the hands of Giovanni Ricci, a lawyer and academician at Venice, who, struck with the beauty of the composition, published it anonymously in 1558. His ignorance of the author on the one hand, and, on the other, the simple and regular con

translation) were the only pieces about which I was anxious that I could not procure. Perhaps you may meet with them in some of the libraries in Paris. If you should, I would beg the argument of the *Philodoxeos*, and your opinion in regard to the fidelity of the Italian version of the *Progne*. If you should meet with the edition of the *Fernandus Servatus* of Carlo Verardo,* printed at Rome 1493, you would much oblige me by sending me the *ballata* at the end, with the *note musicali*. I shall not trouble you with any other literary commissions. I am happy to find that your inestimable work is to appear in Paris. You will, I presume, enrich it with much new matter.

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struction of the fable, and the pureness of the Latinity, led him to doubt if it were not the production of some classical author. Accordingly, in his dedication he terms it "antiquis, quæ maximè laudantur, certè parem." Walker has given a long account of the play, with extracts. Corraro was nephew to Gregory XII., and Patriarch of Venice.

* The plot of the play here alluded to was founded upon an attempt made by an assassin upon the life of Ferdinand, and rendered unsuccessful by the timely interposition of St. James. With the historical personages of the drama were mingled Pluto, Tisiphone, &c. the first of whom, in a monologue on the respective religions of Christ and Mahomet, introduces the names and deeds of Pirithous, Orestes, and Hercules. It is an exceedingly curious piece, being, as Mr. Walker observes, "the prototype, at least in Italy, of that species of secular drama entitled *Histories* by the early dramatic writers of England. Of the same kind are the *Mysteries*, so admirably illustrated of late by my excellent friends, Mr. Markland and Mr. Sharpe. Carlo Verardo was a native of Cesena, and lived in the sixteenth century, holding the office of Secretary of Briefs to Paul II. and three succeeding pontiffs.

I shall now communicate, for the information of your literary friends, an account of a new publication of considerable merit which has just appeared at Dublin, and will appear in London, by Symonds, Paternoster Row: only two hundred and fifty copies were printed. It is entitled, 'The Argonautics of Apollonius Rhodius, translated into English verse; with Notes, critical, historical and explanatory, and Dissertations, by William Preston, in three volumes.' Mr. Preston is an excellent poet and profound scholar. Now for the contents:—Vol. 1. Preface and Translation of the Poem. Vol. 2. Notes critical, historical, &c. Vol. 3. Translation of Apollodorus the Athenian, and part of the Argonautics of Orpheus. Essay the 1st, on the life of Apollonius Rhodius. Essay 2nd, on the Argonautic expedition. Essay the 3rd, The manners of the heroic ages, considered with a reference to poetry. Essay 4th, on the poetical character of Apollonius Rhodius. Essay 5th, Apollonius Rhodius and Virgil compared. Essay the 6th, on the Geography of Apollonius Rhodius. Essay 7th, on the Hesperides and their gardens. I think translations of the Dissertations would be well received in France.

I am told that part of Mr. Roscoe's Leo is printed; and Mr. Greswell is said to be preparing another work for the press. Boyd has finished a translation of the *Araucana*. I suppose you have seen Mr. Leyden's edition of the Scotish Descriptive Poems: some of them have considerable merit; and, in the prefaces and notes, there is much curious matter and sound criticism. I believe there will be a fourth volume of the Reliques of

English Poetry; but the poor bishop has been much indisposed of late: his friends are alarmed for his eyes. Mr. Hayley's *Life of Cowper* has appeared, and has been very well received. He is sending me a copy, which I expect this week. I hope it is true that Mr. Fuseli is now at Paris, preparing for the press an Account of the Galleries. Perhaps there is no man living better qualified for the undertaking: his lectures enchant me. They are the opinions of a powerful mind and a great master of his subject. The style is admirable—for a foreigner, wonderful! But I shall weary you. Adieu, my dear Sir. Command me whenever you may think I can serve you.

M. GOSSELLIN* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Paris, le 30 Avril, 1803.

Vous me demandez si je crois possible d'expliquer, 1°, pourquoi Ptolémée en décrivant l'Ecosse

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TRANSLATION.

MR. GOSSELLIN TO MR. PINKERTON.

Paris, April 30th, 1803.

In reply to your question, how far I think it possible to offer any explanation, 1st, why Ptolemy, in his Description of Scot-

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* F. Pascal Gossellin, Member of the National Institute, published *Géographie des Grecs analysée, ou les Systêmes de Strabon, de Ptolémée, comparés avec eux et avec nos connaissances modernes.* 1790, 4to. He also published a translation of Strabo in 4to, and other works on the subject of ancient geography. To this letter Mr. Pinkerton has subjoined, by way of note, "the explanation here given appears to me to be at once new

a tracé sa plus grande étendue dans la direction de l'ouest à l'est, tandis qu'il auroit dû la porter du sud au nord; 2°, si, malgré la forme bizarre que Ptolémée a donnée à l'Ecosse, on peut reconnoître quelques vestiges des mesures itinéraires qu'il a dû employer pour déterminer son contour.

Pour répondre à la question relative aux mesures itinéraires, je me servirai de la carte des Isles Britanniques de Ptolémée, telle qu'elle a été gravée par Mercator, (c'est la moins mauvaise que nous ayons,) et, sans m'arrêter à certaines inexactitudes qu'elle présente, j'y mesure à l'ouverture du compas l'intervalle de chacun des points de la côte, indiqués

land, has made its greatest length from east to west, whereas it is considerably longer from north to south; and secondly, if, notwithstanding the strange form that geographer has given to Scotland, any traces are to be found of the itinerary measures which he has employed in the determination of its circumference, I would reply to the latter inquiry by a reference to Ptolemy's map of the British Isles, as laid down by Mercator, (for this is the best we have,) and, without troubling myself with certain inaccuracies, I would measure by the compass the distance between each several point on the coast as stated by that author, in the portion of the island now known by the name of Scotland.

and luminous, and satisfactory." The year after it was written, he published at Paris a French Translation of his *Dissertation on the Origin and Progress of the Scythians and Goths*, to which, since its first appearance in 1787, he had made considerable additions; and in the Appendix, p. 364, he printed this letter, a translation of which he subsequently added to the second edition of his *Inquiry into the early History of Scotland*. Mr. Gossellin died 7th February, 1830, at the age of seventy-eight: thus, even the few weeks occupied in the passage of these letters through the press have not been without a *memento mori* in the death of one of the writers of them!

"Each moment has its sickle, emulous
Of Time's enormous scythe."

par le texte de Ptolémée, et qui appartiennent à ce que nous appelons maintenant l'Ecosse.

Afin d'éviter toute espèce d'incertitude sur la valeur des mesures itinéraires anciennes, je compare toutes ces distances à l'échelle des latitudes, c'est-à-dire que je les réduis en degrés d'un grand cercle de la terre.

En partant du fleuve *Vedera*, et allant de point en point jusqu'à *Ituna Æstuarium*, je trouve la somme des distances égale à 19° 5′ de latitude.

Sur la carte de D'Anville, je mesure avec attention les sinuosités des côtes de l'Ecosse: je leur trouve depuis Tinmouth, près de Newcastle, jusqu'au fond du golfe de Carlisle, la valeur de 19° de l'échelle des latitudes; et j'ai déjà la preuve que l'ensemble des mesures dans la carte de Ptolémée est juste: seulement, elles y sont données en lignes droites, sans égard aux petites sinuosités intermédiaires.

Si je cherche les distances des principales po-

To avoid every kind of uncertainty with regard to the length of the measures adopted by the ancients, I would compare all these distances with the scale of latitudes: that is to say, I would reduce them to degrees measured upon the great circle of the globe.

Thus, setting out from the river *Vedera*, and going step by step to *Ituna Æstuarium*, I find the total amount of the distances equal to 19° 5′ of latitude.

This done, on D'Anville's map I attentively measure the different bays on the Scotch coast; and I find that from Tynemouth near Newcastle to the bottom of the Solway Frith, near Carlisle, comprises nineteen degrees of latitude; and thus I have a proof that the measures given in Ptolemy's chart, taken collectively, are accurate: only they are there laid down in straight lines, no regard being paid to the little intermediate sinuosities.

If I examine the distances between the principal places on

sitions de ces côtes pour les comparer à nos connoissances actuelles, je trouve :—

Dans la Carte de Ptolémée.

1. Du fleuve *Vedera* à *Boderia Æstuarium*	1°	20′
2. De *Boderia* au promontoire *Tæsalum*	2	40
3. De *Tæsalum* à *Varar Æstuarium* .	1	10
4. De *Varar* au promontoire *Orcas* . .	2	10
5. Du promontoire *Orcas* au promontoire *Epidium*	4	10
6. De *l'Epidium* à *Clota Æstuarium* .	1	55
7. De *Clota* au promontoire *Novantum* .	2	10
8. Du *Novantum* à *Ituna Æstuarium* .	3	30
Total . .	19	5

Sur la Carte de D'Anville.

1. De la rivière de *Tinmouth*, au fond du golfe de *Linlithgow* . . .	1°	50′

this coast to compare them with what we actually know, I find as follows :—

In Ptolemy's Chart.

1. From the river *Vedera* to *Boderia Æstuarium* .	1°	20′
2. From *Boderia* to the promontory of *Tæsalum* .	2	40
3. From *Tæsalum* to *Varar Æstuarium* . . .	1	10
4. From *Varar* to the promontory of *Orcas* . .	2	10
5. From the promontory of *Orcas* to that of *Epidium* .	4	10
6. From *Epidium* to *Clota Æstuarium* . . .	1	55
7. From *Clota* to the promontory of *Novantum* . .	2	10
8. From *Novantum* to *Ituna Æstuarium* . . .	3	30
Total . .	19	5

In D'Anville's Chart.

1. From the river *Tyne* to the bottom of *Linlithgow Bay*	1°	50′

2. De *Linlithgow* à *Buchan-ness*, en y comprenant le golfe de Dundee .	2	40
3. De *Buchan-ness* à *Nairn*, dans un golfe	1	10
4. De *Nairn* au Cap *Dunnet*, en y comprenant les golfes	2	5
5. Du Cap *Dunnet*, au Cap *Ardnamurchan*, en y comprenant les principaux golfes	4	5
6. De *l'Ardnamurchan*, au fond du golfe de *Linhé Loch*	1	10
7. Du fond du golfe de *Linhé-Loch*, au cap *Mull of Cantire* . . .	2	0
8. Du *Mull of Cantire*, au fond du golfe de *Carlisle*, sans entrer dans les golfes au-delà de *l'Isle Bute* . . .	4	0
Total de la circonférence de l'Ecosse .	19	0

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2. From *Linlithgow* to *Buchan-ness*, comprising the Bay of Dundee	2	40
3. From *Buchan-ness* to *Nairn*	1	10
4. From *Nairn* to Cape *Dunnet*, counting the bays .	2	5
5. From Cape *Dunnet* to *Ardnamurchan Point*, counting the principal bays	4	5
6. From *Ardnamurchan* to the bottom of the Bay of *Linhe-Loch*	1	10
7. From the bottom of the Bay of *Linhe-Loch* to the Cape of the Mull of *Cantire*	2	0
8. From the Mull of *Cantire* to the bottom of the Solway Frith near *Carlisle*, without reckoning the bays beyond the *Isle of Bute* . . .	4	0
Total circumference of Scotland	19	0

Vous voyez, Monsieur, que les détails confirment la mesure générale ; et que partout où Ptolémée indique un golfe ou un cap, je retrouve ces deux témoins irrévocables de l'exactitude de ses distances.

Comme les côtes occidentales de l'Ecosse sont extrêmement découpées par la mer, il pourroit se faire que des cartes plus exactes que celles de D'Anville donnassent un peu plus ou un peu moins de distance d'un lieu à un autre. Mais, comme nous ignorons aussi, ce que les anciens peuvent avoir négligé dans la mesure de ces parages, il doit vous paroître suffisant que l'ensemble des principaux points s'accorde, pour lever toutes les incertitudes. Les nombreuses variantes du texte de Ptolémée fourniroient d'ailleurs les moyens de tout concilier.

Vous concevez qu'en adaptant aux intervalles précédens telle mesure ancienne ou moderne que

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Thus you see, Sir, that the parts, taken in detail, confirm the general measurement, and that wherever a gulf or a cape is pointed out by Ptolemy, we are sure to find unquestionable evidence of the exactness of his distances.

As the western coast of Scotland is exceedingly indented by the sea, it is possible that maps, drawn up with more precision than those of D'Anville, might give a little more or less distance between certain places; but, as we are also ignorant what the ancients may have neglected in their measurements of the coast, it cannot but appear to you sufficient to remove all possible doubt, that the principal points should agree. The numerous various readings, too, in the text of Ptolemy, will furnish means of reconciling what might otherwise look discordant.

You will observe, that whatever scale, whether of ancient or modern measures, may be applied as above, the same result

l'on voudra choisir, on obtiendra toujours la même exactitude. Si l'on emploie, par exemple, le stade Olympique de 600 au degré, ou le stade d'Eratosthènes de 700, ou le stade de Ptolémée de 500, ou le mille Romain de 75, ou la lieue marine de 20 au degré, on aura, pour la circonférence de l'Ecosse, 11,400 stades Olympiques, ou 13,300 stades d'Eratosthènes, ou 9,500 stades de Ptolémée, ou 1425 milles Romains, et chacune de ces mesures représentera 380 lieues marines.

Si vous n'étiez pas certain que l'Ecosse dans Ptolémée dût commencer à la rivière de Tinmouth, je vous observerois que l'une des positions les plus incontestables de sa carte est l'embouchure de la Tamise (*Tamesa*) : or, de cette embouchure à *Vedera*, les positions prises de point en point, à l'ouverture du compas, offrent sur l'échelle des latitudes un intervalle de 4° 55′, ou, si l'on veut, de 98⅓ lieues marines ; et, cette distance étant égale à

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equally follows. If, for example, we employ the Olympic stadium of 600 to a degree, or that of Eratosthenes which contained 700, or Ptolemy's of only 500, or the Roman mile, or the nautical league, the former of 75, the latter of 20, the circumference of Scotland will be found to comprise 11,400 Olympic stadia, 13,300 of the stadia of Eratosthenes, 9,500 stadia according to Ptolemy, or 1425 Roman miles ; and each of these sums equally represents 380 nautical leagues.

If you were not already aware that Ptolemy has made Scotland begin at the Tyne, I would point out to you that one of the most unquestionable positions in his map is the mouth of the Thames. Now, from the Thames to the river Vedera, if we measure by the compass the different intermediate points, we find that they embrace a space of 4° 25′ latitude, or, in other words, of 98⅓ nautical leagues ; and this distance is the same as

celle que présente la carte de D'Anville, en mesurant le long des côtes depuis l'embouchure de la Tamise jusqu'à Tinmouth, on ne peut se dispenser d'y reconnoître l'ancienne limite de l'Ecosse : c'est là d'ailleurs qu'aboutissoit le *Vallum Hadriani*, qui est du siècle de Ptolémée, et qui séparoit la Bretagne de la Calédonie.

Quant à l'autre objet de votre demande, si vous faites attention que Ptolémée a trop élevé toutes les latitudes de l'Angleterre, qu'il s'est trompé de 3° 30′ sur celle de *Vedera*, en la portant à 58° 30′, au lieu de 55°, vous reconnoîtrez que s'il avoit bien orienté la Calédonie, en la dessinant comme il l'a fait, le cap *Orcas* se seroit trouvé à 64 degrés de latitude, c'est-à-dire, plus au nord que sa *Thule*, où le plus long jour, fixé à vingt heures comme il le dit, indiquoit pour son temps une latitude de 62° 57′ 1″, ou de 63 degrés en nombres ronds.

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is given by D'Anville's map, on measuring the coast from the mouth of the Thames to Tynemouth. Hence we have sure grounds for establishing the ancient boundary of Scotland : this too was the point of termination of Adrian's Wall, which was a work of Ptolemy's time, raised to separate Britain from Caledonia.

As to the other object of your inquiry, I beg of you to observe that Ptolemy has assigned too great an elevation to all the latitudes of England : that with regard to that of *Vedera* he has made a mistake of 3° 30′, by raising it to 58° 30′, instead of 55° : and you thus cannot fail to see that, had he put Caledonia in its true situation as to the east, drawing it at the same time as he has done, his Cape Orcas would be in 64° of latitude, and would thus be more northward than his Thule, where he has fixed the duration of his longest day at twenty hours, thus indicating a latitude of 63°, to speak in round numbers.

Mais, comme il savoit que les Isles Orcades étoient plus méridionales que *Thule*, et la Calédonie ou l'Ecosse plus méridionale encore, il s'est vu forcé, pour placer tous les points de cette dernière contrée aux distances que les itinéraires lui donnoient, de courber et de porter toute sa partie septentrionale vers l'orient, afin de retrouver, dans le sens des longitudes, l'espace que l'observation faite à *Thule* lui interdisoit de prendre dans le sens des latitudes.

Remarquez encore, que si des 61° 40′, où Ptolémée a placé le promontoire *Novantum*, vous déduisez les 3° 30′ d'erreur qu'il a faite sur la hauteur de *Vedera*, il restera 58° 10′; et cette latitude s'éloignant peu de celle du Cap Dunnet, prouve qu'il avoit existé des observations qui indiquoient le parallèle où se terminoit l'Ecosse.

Je désire, Monsieur, que ces explications puissent

Since, however, he knew that the position of the Orkney Isles was still more southern than Thule, and that Caledonia, or Scotland, was even more to the south, he found it out of his power to arrange the different points of this latter country according to the distances assigned them by the itineraries, without giving its northern part an inclination towards the East. This therefore he has done, and has thus accomplished, in the direction of the longitude, what he was prevented by the observation he had made at Thule from effecting, as should have been done, in latitude.

It is still further to be remarked, that if from 61° 40′, where Ptolemy has placed the promontory which he calls *Novantum*, we deduct the error of 3° 30′, made, as above stated, in the latitude of *Vedera*, the remainder is 58° 10′, which is nearly the true latitude of Cape Dunnet, and shows that the parallel assigned to the termination of Scotland was founded upon real observations.

It will give me great pleasure to hear that these explanations

vous satisfaire : je l'apprendrai avec plaisir ; et je vous prie de croire que j'en aurai toujours beaucoup à m'entretenir avec vous.

MADAME GORDON* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Canton Leman, à la Sarras en Suisse,
le 3 Juin, 1803.

Votre lettre du 25 Mai m'inspire de la confiance ; et encore plus le nom d'Ecossois que vous portez : feu mon mari était de cette nation, et a toujours

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may prove satisfactory to you, as I earnestly hope will be the case ; and I assure you it will make me most happy to converse with you at any time on the subject.

MRS. GORDON TO MR. PINKERTON.

Province of Leman, at Sarras in Switzerland,
June 3d, 1803.

Your letter of the 25th May claims my confidence, which I am still more willing to give to a gentleman who is a native of Scotland : it was to that country that my late husband be-

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* Madame Gordon, *née Nicollet*, as she signs herself, was widow of Colonel Gordon, who accompanied Lieutenant Paterson in his travels into the interior of Africa ; and Lieutenant Paterson, in his narrative of those travels, (p. 3.) says " I was particularly fortunate in meeting with a gentleman, Captain Gordon, now Colonel, who had travelled in this country some years before, (about 1774,) and was lately returned from Holland as second in command, and appointed to succeed Colonel Du Phren who was then commander-in-chief. Colonel Gordon is a gentleman of extensive information in most branches of natural history ; and, I believe, is the only person who has any considerable knowledge of that country, being acquainted with

conservé pour eux les sentimens et les liaisons les plus intimes ; et je peux dire que nos meilleurs amis sont en Angleterre, et que j'ai toujours eu envie que ce fût avec eux que j'eusse à traiter pour un ouvrage qui mérite leur attention et leur suffrage, et qui l'a eu de tous les connoisseurs ; car mon mari est connu, et étoit en correspondance avec plusieurs savans de tous pays : les apparences sont entièrement contre ce que j'ai l'honneur de vous dire : la chose n'en est pas moins certaine ; et, lorsque j'aurai l'honneur de vous voir, je vous expliquerai les circonstances qui m'ont fait agir comme j'ai fait : donnez-vous la peine de relire le prospectus, et vous y verrez, Monsieur, que les journaux

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longed ; and to the last hour of his life he always cherished feelings of warm attachment towards it. I may still further add that our best friends are in England, and that I have always entertained a hope that I might eventually have to treat with an Englishman for a work which is deserving the attention and support of the nation.

My husband, Colonel Gordon, was a man who was generally known, and had an extensive correspondence with literary men in all countries : I am aware that appearances are against what I have the honor to state to you, but the fact itself is unquestionable ; and if I should ever have the good fortune to make your personal acquaintance, I will explain to you the circumstances that have caused me to adopt my present line of conduct.

If you will give yourself the trouble again to read my pro-

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the interior parts for near 1500 miles from the Cape. He had acquired the language of the Hottentots, which, together with his perfect acquaintance with the Dutch language, gave him an advantage over most other travellers " His travels, which are the subject of this and of a great many other letters from Madame Gordon, which I have not thought it necessary to print, have never, I believe, been published.

sont écrits en Hollandois; et je ne crois pas qu'ils fournissent plus d'un volume en quarto. Ce qui rend l'ouvrage volumineux sont les cartes, et leurs explications, les dessins des vues de l'intérieur du pays, de même que des dessins de plantes et d'animaux en tous genres: il est impossible de se former une idée de l'immensité de ce travail par un simple exposé, il faut le voir. Je serois charmée d'avoir l'honneur de vous voir chez moi; mais, en cas qu'il vous convînt mieux de les voir à Paris, je consens volontiers à y aller moi-même avec tous les papiers, en cas que je sois sûre de votre part que nous pourrons nous arranger ensemble; ce qui ne sera pas bien difficile, puisque j'aurai à faire avec un honnête homme. Suivant votre réponse, je pourrois être à Paris avant la fin de ce mois.

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spectus, you will see that the journals are written in Dutch; and it is my opinion that they would not fill more than a single quarto volume. The bulk, I am aware, promises much more; but it is swelled by numerous maps and the explanation of them, as well as by a great variety of drawings, some of them representing the interior of the country, others of plants and animals of all kinds. No statement which I could make would enable you to form an idea of the extent of the labor: to judge of it adequately, you must see it with your own eyes. I should be delighted to have the honor of receiving you in Switzerland; but, if it should suit you better to look over my collections at Paris, I would willingly make the journey, and bring with me all my papers, provided you feel there is a reasonable expectation of our coming to terms. In this important respect I am willing to place the most entire confidence in your character. Should your answer be favorable, I may arrive at Paris before the end of the present month.

M. ORCHOWSKI TO MR. PINKERTON.

Le 22 Novembre, 1803.

Vous vous proposez, Monsieur, de parler dans votre estimable ouvrage de la littérature Polonaise. Ce sera sans doute une des plus belles guirlandes qui aura jamais paré le tombeau de ma patrie infortunée. Des orateurs et écrivains célébres de votre nation se sont constamment montrés par leurs travaux les généreux défenseurs de la Pologne—Fox, Mackintosh, Plowden, Campbell, et tant d'autres qui ont droit à la plus vive reconnaissance de mes compatriotes; et vous allez augmenter le nombre de ces hommes illustres, et de nos obligations.

Les deux ouvrages que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous recommander, vous serviront de guide en ce qui concerne la littérature Polonaise, dans les quin-

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TRANSLATION.

M. ORCHOWSKI TO MR. PINKERTON.

November 22nd, 1803.

The intention you entertain of inserting in your excellent work an account of Polish literature is singularly gratifying to me, and will unquestionably be one of the most welcome garlands that can be hung on the bier of my unfortunate country. Poland has repeatedly been called upon to acknowledge her deep obligations to the most celebrated orators and authors of England for stepping forward generously in her defence. The illustrious names of Fox, Mackintosh, Plowden, and Campbell, are already to be found in the list of those who are entitled to her gratitude; and you, Sir, in adding to the catalogue another distinguished Briton, will materially add to our obligations.

The two works which I have had the pleasure of recommending to your notice will be your best guides as to what concerns

zième, seizième, et dix-septième siècles. Dans le premier de ces ouvrages, intitulé, "*Centum illustrium Poloniæ Scriptorum Elogia et Vitæ*," vous verrez ceux qui ont écrit, soit en prose ou en vers Latins et Polonais. Le second, fait par Daniel Hoffman, vous présentera les détails suffisans sur l'état des imprimeries qui se trouvaient en Pologne dans les mêmes siècles, sur leur nombre, et sur les ouvrages qui sortirent de leur presse. Je dois ajouter encore les noms des hommes qui ont vécu et écrit après le biographe recommandé. Ils sont:

I. Le même Simon Stanowolski, dont la plume a transmis à la postérité les savans et les littérateurs Polonais qui l'ont précédé, mérite un juste éloge par l'étendue de ses connaissances et par l'utilité de ses travaux. Il écrivit en Latin:

1. *De Rebus Sigismundi I.* libri 4. Cracoviæ, 1616.

2. *Penu Historicum; seu de fructuosâ ratione Historias legendi Commentarius.* Venetiis, 1620.

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our literature during the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries. The first of these, entitled, *Centum illustrium Poloniæ Scriptorum Elogia et Vitæ*, contains an account of our authors, both in prose and verse; and if the latter, as well in Latin as in Polish. The second, by Daniel Hoffman, describes the state of printing in Poland during the same centuries, and the number and titles of the works which issued from their presses. To these I must add the names of those authors who lived after the period above mentioned. They are:

I. The same Simon Stanowolski, whose pen, as above mentioned, has transmitted to posterity the Polonese *savans* and literati deceased before his time, and who justly deserves an eulogium for the extent of his erudition, and for the utility of his labors. His Latin works are as follows:

1. *De rebus Sigismundi I.* libri 4. Cracoviæ, 1616.

2. *Penu Historicum, seu de fructuosâ ratione Historias legendi Commentarius.* Venetiis, 1620.

3. *Oratio in obitum Caroli Chodhiewicz:* celui-ci, un des plus grands généraux de la Pologne, s'est rendu célèbre dans plusieurs guerres, et mourut au champ de gloire.

4. *Centum illustrium Poloniæ Scriptorum Elogia et Vitæ.*

5. *De claris Oratoribus Sarmatiæ.* Florentiæ, 1628. Cet ouvrage, quoique très succinct, donne des notions précieuses sur les orateurs Polonais.

6. *Eques Polonus. Vitæ clarorum Bellatorum Poloniæ.* Venetiis, 1628.

7. *Declamatio contra Obtrectatores Poloniæ.* Cracoviæ, 1631.

8. *Orationes IV.* Ibidem, 1623.

9. *Polonia, cum tabulis geographicis: opus optimum ejusdem Stanowolski.* 1632.

10. *Accessus ad Juris utriusque cognitionem.* Romæ, typis Vaticani, 1633.

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3. *Oratio in obitum Caroli Chodhiewicz,* (one of the greatest generals of Poland, who fought many battles, and died on the field of glory.)

4. *Centum illustrium Poloniæ Scriptorum Elogia et Vitæ.*

5. *De claris Oratoribus Sarmatiæ.* Florentiæ, 1628. (This work, though very brief, gives valuable hints concerning Polish orators.)

6. *Eques Polonus: Vitæ clarorum Bellatorum Poloniæ.* Venetiis, 1628.

7. *Declamatio contra Obtrectatores Poloniæ.* Cracoviæ, 1631.

8. *Orationes IV.* Ibidem, 1623.

9. *Polonia: cum tabulis geographicis: opus optimum ejusdem Stanowolski.* 1632.

10. *Accessus ad Juris utriusque cognitionem.* Romæ, typis Vaticani, 1633.

11. *Commentarius in libros Institutionum Juris Civilis.* Cracoviæ, 1638.

12. *Institutionum Rei Militaris.* Cracoviæ, 1630.

Cet auteur, membre et le professeur de l'Université de Cracovie, mort en 1652, laissa aussi nombre de différens écrits en langue Polonaise, qui lui assurèrent une grande estime parmi ses compatriotes.

II. Jacques Sobieski, Castellan de Cracovie: il écrivit en Latin les commentaires d'une guerre contre le Sultan Turc Osman I., qui s'était proposé de faire la conquête de la Pologne. Sobieski se trouvait en personne dans plusieurs combats dont il a fait la description. Mais son ouvrage plus recommendable sont les instructions écrites en Polonais adressées à Stanislas Orchowski, aux soins duquel ce grand sénateur avait confié l'éducation de ses deux fils; de Marc, l'âiné, qui périt

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11. *Commentarius in libros Institutionum Juris Civilis.* Cracoviæ, 1638.

12. *Institutionum rei militaris.* Cracoviæ, 1630.

This author, who was a professor in the university of Cracow, died in 1652, leaving also many works in Polish, which have acquired him great reputation among his countrymen.

II. Jacques Sobieski, governor of the castle of Cracow: he composed in Latin *Commentaries of the war against the Turkish Sultan Osman I.*, who cherished the hopes of conquering Poland. These are the more valuable, as Sobieski was present at many of the battles which he describes. But his most highly esteemed work is what he calls *Instructions:* this work is in Polish, and addressed to Stanislaus Orchowski, to whose care this illustrious Polish senator had entrusted the education of his two sons. The eldest of these, Mark, fell in a combat against the barbarous Cossacks; and the second, John,

dans un combat contre le peuple barbare de Cossaques; et de Jean, après roi, héros de la Pologne, et le libérateur de Vienne. Ces *Instructions*, qui peuvent être regardées comme le meilleur traité d'une éducation physique et morale, respirent la sagesse d'un tendre père, et l'amour pour son pays d'un citoyen qui veut rendre ses enfans dignes de la patrie à laquelle il les consacrait.

III. Jezowski, auteur d'un poème, '*Le Cultivateur Sarmate*, ou l'ordre des travaux agricoles en Sarmatie,' imprimé en 1648.

IV. Opalinski, auteur des Satyres, en bon Polonais, mais en vers non rimés.

V. Twardowski, plein de feu dans ses poèmes, particulièrement dans les pièces dont les sujets sont les actions militaires de ses compatriotes.

VI. Chroscinski et Bardzinski, écrivains recommendables par leurs traductions de la Pharsale

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afterwards came to the throne, and was the hero of Poland and the deliverer of Vienna. His *Instructions*, which may be regarded as one of the best treatises on education, both moral and physical, breathe no less the affection of a tender father than the patriotic feelings of a citizen who longs to render his children worthy of the country to which he devotes them.

III. Jezowski, author of a poem entitled, the *Sarmatian Agriculturist, or the plan of agricultural labor adopted in Sarmatia*, printed 1648.

IV. Opalinski, writer of Satires in good Polish blank verse.

V. Twardowski, whose poems are full of vigor: especially those of which the military exploits of his countrymen form the subject.

VI. Chroscinski and Bardzinski, authors deserving of notice for their translations of the Pharsalia, on which they were both employed at the same time, and which they both printed at Oliva in 1691. They also wrote many original poems.

exécutées en même tems, imprimées à Oliva, 1691 ; et par d'autres poésies originales.

VII. Gawinski, dont les Eclogues et Epigrammes sont aussi écrites en bon Polonais.

VIII. Enfin, le roi Jean Sobieski, le plus instruit, le plus éloquent, et le plus brave parmi les Polonais de son tems, finit le dix-septième siècle, et celui de la gloire de sa patrie, tant sous les rapports de la littérature que sous ceux de l'esprit militaire. Je laisse sous le silence d'autres auteurs qui se sont distingués dans les siècles XV., XVI., XVII., par les traductions classiques des auteurs Grecs, Latins, Français, Italiens, et en ont enrichi la langue Polonaise.

En parcourant ainsi les annales de la littérature de la patrie de Kopernicus, vous pouvez me demander pourquoi les progrès des connaissances n'étaient pas si étendus en Pologne comme chez les autres nations dans les siècles mentionnés. La

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VII. Gawinski, whose Eclogues and Epigrams are also composed in good Polish verse.

VIII. The king, John Sobieski, who excelled all his contemporaries in learning, eloquence and bravery, was the last in the seventeenth century, the most glorious æra in the annals of his country, whether we take into consideration its literature or its warlike spirit.

I pass over many other authors in the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries, distinguished for their translations of various Greek, Latin, French, and Italian authors.

While I thus describe the literature of the country which produced a Copernicus, it may well be thought strange, that the march of intellect in Poland, during the centuries I have mentioned, has been so much more tardy than among other nations. But the solution of the difficulty is easy. You need

réponse en est facile : il ne faut que fixer les yeux sur la carte de l'Europe, et on verra cette vaste étendue de territoire que la Pologne renfermait. La population n'était que très faible en rapport à cet espace. Elle n'excède pas même en notre tems le nombre de quatre cents habitans par une lieue carrée. Les villages, les hameaux, sont très épars sur cette étendue, et presque isolés. Les villes y sont plus rares encore, sans être suffisamment peuplées. Celles du premier ordre, comme Varsovie, Cracovie, et Wilna, prises ensemble, ne renferment pas au-delà de 150,000 âmes. La communication n'était donc pas fréquente entre les habitans, qui seule est favorable à l'avancement des sciences et des arts. On peut faire encore une autre remarque. La communication et le commerce d'une nation avec ses voisins civilisés contribuent généralement au progrès des lumières. Quels étaient les peuples qui entouraient la Po-

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only cast your eyes over a map of Europe, and you will at once see the immense extent of territory that Poland occupied. The population of this tract was always very inadequate to its space: even in our time the average is not more than four hundred inhabitants to a square league. The villages and hamlets are thinly scattered; and towns are still more seldom met with, and are very insufficiently peopled. The principal ones, Warsaw, Cracow, and Wilna, do not collectively contain more than 150,000 souls: we may therefore easily perceive that such intercourse as is alone favorable to the advancement of the arts and sciences, must have been very unfrequent.

Another reason may be adduced: The communication which a nation maintains with its more civilized neighbors, contributes mainly to the progress of literature. But who and what were the neighbors of Poland? On one side, savage

logne? D'un côté, les Tartares sauvages et les Turcs abrutis. De l'autre, les Hongrois, les Bohêmes, chez lesquels la littérature resta dans l'enfance, particulièrement depuis que ces deux nations portent le joug étranger.

Quel fut aussi l'état de lumières chez les Russes et les Prussiens jusqu'au tems de Frédéric le Grand, de Catharine II., vous, Monsieur, vous le pouvez juger le mieux, puisque cet objet de travail n'a pas échappé à vos savantes recherches. La Pologne restait presque isolée parmi ces peuples, fameux par leur fureur dont ils l'avaient accablée, mais qu'elle avait devancée en sa civilisation comme aussi par toute sorte de lumières. Ajoutons en même tems les guerres terribles et fréquentes que les Polonais ont soutenues contre leurs voisins aussi puissans que cruels. Des milliers d'hommes périssaient presque chaque année pendant plusieurs siècles sans interruption dans les combats contre les Allemands, les Hongrois, les Moraviens, les Bohêmes,

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Tartars and brutal Turks: on the other, Hungarians and Bohemians, among whom learning has been stunted in its infancy, particularly since they have been subjected to a foreign yoke.

You, Sir, whose erudite researches have been particularly directed to the subject, are well calculated to judge of the state of knowledge in Russia and Prussia before the time of Catharine and Frederick the Great. Between these nations, Poland stood insulated: their superior in civilization and in every kind of knowledge, but constantly exposed to their fury, and to frequent and dreadful wars waged as well by them as by her other numerous and powerful enemies. I should hardly exceed the truth were I to say, that, for many centuries in succession, millions of her citizens annually fell in battle against the Germans, Hungarians, Moravians, Bohemians,

les Turcs, les Tartares, les Cossaques, les Russes, les Prussiens, les Saxons, les Suédois, et les Danois. Les rivages du Danube et du Boristhêne, les plaines de l'Ukraine et de la Moldavie, les bords du Pont Euxin et de la Mer Baltique, sont trop arrosés du sang des Polonais, qui tombèrent sur les champs de la gloire pour la défense de leur patrie. Quelle nombreuse jeunesse ne fut-elle pas détruite par le fer de Mars, et avec elle combien de génies ne sont-ils pas éteints dans leur germe encore?

Voici, Monsieur, ce que je peux dire des efforts des Polonais pendant ces tems éloignés pour l'avancement des sciences et des lettres dans leur pays; et vous voyez aussi les obstacles qui s'opposaient à leurs vœux ardens. Je vais parler de la littérature du siècle qui vient de finir; et ce sera l'objet de ma première lettre, laquelle, comme celle-ci, doit vous être un garant de ma plus haute considération pour vous.

Turks, Tartars, Cossacks, Russians, Prussians, Swedes, and Danes. The banks of the Danube, and the Boristhenes, the plains of Ukrania and Moldavia, the shores of the Euxine and the Baltic, are drenched with the blood of my countrymen who have perished on the field of glory in defence of their native land. The flower of our youth has been cut off by the sword; and with them the rising talents of the nation have been nipped in the bud.

Thus, Sir, I have endeavored to show the efforts of the Poles for the promotion of science and literature, and at the same time to point out the obstacles that have arisen to frustrate their endeavors. I should be glad also to describe the progress of learning in the century that has just closed; and this shall be the object of my next letter, in which, as in all my communications to you, I am eager to express the high respect I entertain for your character.

M. ORCHOWSKY TO MR. PINKERTON.

A Paris, Janvier 5, 1804.

C'est une tâche très pénible à un Polonais de parler de la littérature du dix-huitième siècle de sa nation. Des souvenirs douloureux se réveillent dans son âme, déchirée par les événemens sous lesquels sa patrie a succombé. Mais ce qui est plus désolant encore, c'est que le respect de la vérité le force de dire que ce siècle dans sa plus grande partie fut celui de l'ignorance et de l'opprobre de la Pologne. Il était cependant arrivé un tems, et cette époque n'est pas trop éloignée, où les Polonais avaient fait de grands efforts pour se relever de l'avilissement. Leurs souhaits allaient être couronnés d'un succès éclatant: mais les conjonctures fatales les replongèrent dans un précipice plus terrible, où tout ce qui leur était le

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TRANSLATION.

M. ORCHOWSKI TO MR PINKERTON.

Paris, January 5th, 1804.

It is a very trying task to a Pole to speak of the state of literature in his country during the eighteenth century. Such an attempt awakens painful recollections in a mind yet agitated by the remembrance of the circumstances which have occasioned the downfall of Poland. But, what is yet more trying, truth compels him to admit that, during that century, the nation was in a state of ignorance and degradation. There had been a time, and that not a very distant one, when the Poles made powerful efforts to liberate themselves from their humiliating position; and these efforts seemed likely to prove successful. But a disastrous train of circumstances defeated all their attempts, and plunged them into an abyss of misfortune, where every thing that they held dearest, even hope

plus cher périt même avec espérance. Ces désastres ne peuvent que trop intéresser l'âme sensible ; c'est pourquoi, Monsieur, je vous demande de l'indulgence si je vais entrer dans les détails plus considérables.

J'ai avancé dans ma lettre précédente, que la gloire, dont les Polonais s'étaient rendus dignes par les armes et par les sciences qu'ils cultivaient dans le quinzième, le seizième, et le dix-septième siècles, s'évanouit avec le règne du vaillant Sobieski. Je ne serais que trop consolé si l'on pouvait repousser mon assertion, qui m'afflige moi-même. Je me rendrais néanmoins coupable d'une grande injustice si j'en voulais charger toute la nation Polonaise. Quelques familles trop puissantes dans la république mal organisée, quelques magnats ambitieux dont l'audace avait franchi les bornes de la loi, enfin, les chefs imbéciles qui gouver-

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itself, perished. Calamities like these cannot fail of touching a heart alive to the feelings of humanity; and it is on this account, Sir, that I bespeak your indulgence, if I enter into a lengthened detail of them.

In my preceding letter, I stated that the glory which Poland had acquired by her arms and her advancement in science during the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries, departed with the death of her king, the gallant Sobieski. Could this assertion, which it is most painful to me to make, be refuted, I should feel it a great consolation; and willingly would I charge myself with injustice, if I could, by so doing, clear the Polish nation. But it is impossible. The ill-organised state of the republic; the influence exercised over it by some families who had become too powerful for the government; the shameless audacity with which the nobility infringed the laws; and the weakness with which those laws were enforced by the princes who bore rule during the eighteenth cen-

naient la Pologne pendant le dix-huitième siècle, attirèrent la honte sur la nation, et en sont responsables aux yeux de la postérité. Je les laisse à son jugement impartial; et j'entre dans le développement du sujet que je me suis proposé.

Les aventures et les galanteries scandaleuses d'un prince Saxon, dont il avait rendu fameuse sa bruyante jeunesse, sont bien connues; et ce prince régnait en Pologne sous le nom de Frédéric Auguste. Aussitôt qu'il fut placé sur le trône, entouré des trophées et des lauriers du libérateur de Vienne, la dépravation des mœurs et le faste entrèrent avec lui sous les lambris des Piaste et des Jagellon. Sa cour, dit Voltaire dans l'histoire de Charles XII., était la plus brillante d'Europe après celle de Louis XIV.

Le grand nombre de Polonais qui vendirent à l'Electeur de Saxe le sceptre de Sobieski, ou-

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tury,—all these causes combined to bring disgrace upon the nation; and these must answer for it to posterity. To the impartial judgment of posterity I therefore leave them; and enter upon the subject which I proposed to discuss.

Every one is acquainted with the barefaced intrigues and general licentiousness which had unfortunately distinguished the early years of the Saxon prince who succeeded to our crown, under the name of Frederick Augustus. Nor did these follies terminate with his youth. No sooner had he mounted the throne, still shaded by the trophies and laurels of the deliverer of Vienna, than a luxury and depravity of morals hitherto unknown lorded it over the palaces of the Piasts and the Jagellons. "His court," to use the words of Voltaire, in his history of Charles XII., "was the most brilliant in Europe after that of Louis XIV."

The great number of Poles who had trafficked with Frederick for the sceptre of Sobieski, were as ready during his reign to

vrirent avec avidité leurs cœurs aux amorces de la corruption, comme, pendant l'élection de ce même Saxon, ils avaient laissé flétrir leurs âmes et leurs consciences par la vénalité. On ne voyait à la cour de Frédéric Auguste que l'effronterie des maîtresses, qu'une prodigalité scandaleuse, ou, ce qui est pire encore, un excès honteux dans l'usage des boissons. Bientôt les magnats Polonais qui entouraient ce souverain luxurieux devinrent semblables aux compagnons d'Ulysse pendant leur séjour à l'île de Calypso, après avoir oublié qu'ils avaient été les camarades de l'Achille Sarmate, le brave Sobieski. Les muses Polonaises, dont les charmes furent inconnues au prince étranger par sa langue comme par son éducation, cessèrent de s'approcher du trône auprès duquel, avant son règne, elles jouissaient d'une encourageante protection. L'ignorance commençait à s'introduire

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fatten on corruption, as they had been to prostitute their hearts and consciences for bribes at his election. Luxury, licentiousness and drunkenness reigned unchecked at court: the open effrontery of courtezans was only to be equalled by the scandalous prodigality of all ages and sexes, and by what is still more ruinous, an unbridled indulgence in the use of strong liquors: the nobility who surrounded the dissipated monarch, acted the part of the companions of Ulysses in the isle of Calypso, and forgot the brave Sobieski, their Sarmatian hero, amid the intoxicating draughts of pleasure and luxury. The prince, a stranger both by birth and education, was unable to appreciate the charms of Polonese literature; and the Muses, who in the former reign had drawn nigh the throne, secure of its protection and support, retired into obscurity and banishment. Even the rulers who conducted the affairs of the nation began to share in the general ignorance. But all these evils, great though they were, would not have produced such fatal

parmi les hommes dont l'influence était grande sur la nation. Mais ce mal, quelque grand qu'il fût, n'aurait pas eu des suites si funestes et si promptes, si d'autres circonstances fâcheuses n'eussent pas entraîné la nation dans des malheureuses vicissitudes.

L'Electeur de Saxe, avant que d'être solidement affermi sur le trône de Pologne, puisqu'il n'y était porté que par un parti dont il avait acheté les suffrages, contre les vœux d'un autre parti aussi nombreux que puissant, entra dans une coalition injuste. Le but de celle-ci fut de dépouiller le jeune roi de Suède, Charles XII. de ses états héréditaires. La guerre suivit nécessairement ces projets criminels. Les plaisirs abandonnèrent la cour du roi de Pologne: le parti mécontent s'en réjouit, et brava le prince qui ne savait pas la gagner. La Pologne devint bientôt le théâtre de désolation. La haine des parties alluma les hostilités intestines: les Suédois,

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results, if other calamitous circumstances had not conspired to produce the melancholy vicissitude.

The Elector of Saxony could not but feel the uncertainty of his tenure of the Polish throne, which he had purchased from one part of the nation, while the other remained opposed and averse to his sway. For the consolidation, therefore, of his power, he found it necessary to enter into an unjust coalition, whose object was to deprive the young King of Sweden, Charles XII., of his hereditary possessions. A war was the result of this iniquitous project; and, at the sound of its alarms, pleasure and dissipation took their flight, and the discontented party exulted and defied the king. Poland soon became a scene of confusion: the enmity of the two opposite factions burst forth into a civil war; and Swedes, Saxons,

les Saxons, et les Russes rentrèrent dans la Pologne, et la remplirent de ravages et de sang.

Ce n'est mon dessein, Monsieur, de tracer ici un tableau des combats, des malheurs, et des ruines de mon pays. Des historiens ont déjà développé les circonstances et les suites de cette guerre ruineuse. Qu'un juge impartial, appuyé sur ces preuves, examine et pèse les folies des rois et de leurs sujets, il en trouvera sans doute bien des coupables. Pour moi, quand, les yeux chargés de larmes, je me retrace en idée ces dix années de troubles et d'horreurs, je ne puis que gémir sur l'aveuglement d'un grand nombre de mes compatriotes, qui en étaient ou des complices ou des instrumens funestes. Il viendra un tems où leurs noms paraîtront à découvert aux yeux des nations. Il serait même injuste que tout un peuple, abîmé dans le malheur, restât avili, tandis que l'opprobre

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and Russians poured like a flood into the land, and deluged it with blood.

It is not now my intention, Sir, to enter into a detail of the ineffectual struggles, the consequent misfortunes, and the finally entire ruin of my unhappy country. The particulars and results of this calamitous war have already been described by historians. If any impartial judge were to examine the evidence on both sides, and weigh well the imprudence and follies of the king and his people, he would without doubt find on either part much cause for censure. But, as for myself, when I recall the desolation and distresses of those ten years of blood and horror, I can only mourn over the blindness of the major part of my countrymen, who became either the accomplices or the victims of the changes that then took place. Before long, the names of the actors in this awful tragedy will be known to the world; and meantime, it is the height of injustice that a nation, already sunk in affliction, should be yet more

ne doit frapper qu'une certaine classe d'intrigans et d'ambitieux. Cependant, quelque profondes que furent les plaies de la Pologne, elles auraient été bientôt cicatrisées, les malheurs même seraient bientôt réparés, si la fortune eût favorisé l'homme vertueux, qui, après la chûte méritée de Frédéric Auguste, fut élevé au trône des Piaste. Mais Stanislas Leczezynski étant forcé d'abandonner sa patrie, emporta avec lui les vertus dont il faisait heureuse une autre nation.

La paix fut enfin rendue à la Pologne désolée; mais les suites d'une guerre désastreuse se faisaient trop long-tems sentir. Le paysan fut réduit à la dernière misère par le pillage de différentes armées. Le bourgeois, écrasé par des extorsions militaires, se vit privé de toutes ressources pour son industrie. La noblesse, entraînée par ses pré-

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depressed by reproach and unmerited censure, while the blame ought solely to rest upon a small body of factious and ambitious citizens.

Although the blow which had prostrated Poland was undoubtedly both severe and stunning, she had begun to revive, and her wounds might soon have been healed, had fortune smiled on the virtuous man, who, after the well-merited fall of Frederick Augustus, was dignified with the crown of the Piasts. But Stanislas Leczezynski, compelled to retire from his throne and kingdom, carried away with him the virtues by which he distinguished himself amongst us, to bless another nation.

Peace was, indeed, at length restored to exhausted Poland; but she could not, for many years, recover from the calamitous consequences which war had entailed upon her. Her peasantry was reduced to the extreme of distress by the extortion and pillage of the different armies; her yeomen, crushed under military misrule and exaction, were lawlessly

rogatives dans la querelle des deux rois rivaux et dans la guerre avec des puissans étrangers, fut entièrement ruinée. Les magnats seuls, quoiqu'ils ne puissent pas ne sentir les malheurs publics, trouvèrent bientôt dans la prodigalité de Frédéric Auguste, et plus encore dans les biens de la nation, les moyens suffisans de réparer leurs pertes. Les charges lucratives, les Starosties, les richesses nationales, furent distribuées entre les plus puissans. Et tandis que le gentilhomme et le bourgeois manquaient de ressources pour l'éducation de leurs enfans, la cour et les magnats étalaient la pompe et le luxe frivole. Il fallait établir dans le pays l'ordre, l'économie, la justice, le commerce, et surtout l'éducation abandonnée; et les aristocrates Polonais ne pensaient pendant plusieurs années qu'aux plaisirs, aux intrigues, et aux rapines du bien public. Le Sénat était rempli des

despoiled of the little store which their industry had acquired; and her nobility, necessarily engaged in the contest between the two rival kings, and equally in war with powerful foreign enemies, were soon totally ruined. The magnates alone remained uncrushed; and, though far from exempt from participation in the national calamity, found, in the reckless and profuse liberality of Frederick Augustus, the means of enriching themselves at the expense of their countrymen. They shared among themselves all the lucrative offices of the state, the provincial governments, and the national income; and, while the commons and gentry of the realm were in a condition of absolute want and even of inability to educate their children, the rulers revelled in pomp and luxury, prodigality and excess. Instead of laboring to restore to their country order, economy, justice, commerce, and, above all, the advancement of knowledge by the education of the rising generation, their minds were bent upon pleasure, ambition, and the amassing of money

ignorans, les ministères des hommes frivoles; et les assemblées nationales, dont uniquement dépendait le bonheur du pays, furent ou rompues, ou traversées par la cabale des factieux.

Le roi se souvenait bien de sa détrônisation récente: il s'est donc lié plus étroitement avec Pierre le Grand, et soumit la nation à la dépendance de l'étranger. N'ayant pas assez de confiance dans la troupe composée des Polonais, Frédéric Auguste opéra sa réduction jusqu'à 17,000 hommes. Cette réduction ôta à jamais à la Pologne sa considération chez l'étranger, et ravit à la noblesse pauvre une existence honnête et l'unique moyen d'être utile à la patrie. On vit alors les fils des compagnons d'armes de Sobieski ramper dans les antichambres des ambitieux et des favoris du roi Saxon. Les places les plus riches de l'Eglise, les abbaies, les évéchés sont devenus l'apanage des

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from the public revenue. The senate was composed of ignorant men; the public offices were filled by frivolous courtiers; and the national assemblies, the sole remaining bulwarks of public security and happiness, were nothing more than a scene of cabal and faction.

The King still remembered and resented his recent dethronement; and, in order to settle and strengthen his power, he entered into a still closer confederacy with Peter the Great. Not daring to confide in his Polish troops, he reduced their number to 17,000, and thus at once destroyed the respect in which Poland was held by foreign powers, and took from his impoverished nobility the only honorable means of subsistence, as well as the only opportunity yet left them of serving their country. The sons of the companions in arms of Sobieski were reduced to fawn in the antichambers of the ambitious favorites of the Saxon monarch. The richest benefices of the church, the abbeys and bishoprics, became the especial pro-

familles puissantes; et les talens, les vertus, le vrai mérite, en restaient éloignés.

Tant de maux qui prirent origine et continuaient sous Frédéric Auguste, allaient en augmentant pendant le règne de son fils, parce que le philosophe, Stanislas Leczezynski, se vit enlever pour la deuxième fois l'honneur de posséder le trône des Piaste, quoique pour la deuxième fois il y fut porté par ses compatriotes plus honnêtes et plus sensés. Auguste III., qui repoussa son rival par les armes des Russes et des Autrichiens, n'était qu'un dévot, et, par conséquent, sans des qualités nécessaires à gouverner une nation. Il signala le commencement de son règne par des avanies contre des Polonais qui ne professaient pas la religion Catholique. La Pologne devint le champ des disputes des moines. Les presses typographiques, soumises à la censure des Jésuites, gémissaient sous les gros volumes de catéchismes, de

perty and privilege of the men in power; and talent, virtue, and real merit were excluded from their peculiar sphere.

The mighty mass of evils which originated under the reign of Frederick Augustus, gradually augmented during that of his son. The wise Stanislaus was for a second time elevated to the throne of the Piasts by the unanimous choice of the most respectable and clear-sighted of his countrymen; but he was again compelled to resign it by the united force of Russia and Austria. Under their sanction, Augustus III., a weak-minded bigot, utterly unfitted to govern a nation, succeeded in repulsing his rival, and marked the commencement of his reign by promulgating an edict against such of his Polish subjects as did not profess the Catholic faith. Poland now became the scene of polemic controversy: monks took the lead in our literature; and the press, under the control of the Jesuits, teemed with huge volumes of catechisms, litanies, and lives of saints, as ill

litanies, de vies des saints, aussi mal écrites que sottement imaginées. Voici les principaux ouvrages qui parurent pendant les premières cinquante années du dix-huitième siècle.

La Pierre précieuse de Bohême, placée dans la couronne de Pologne, ou la Vie de St. Hedvige, 1716.

Studium polemicum pro Doctrinâ Catholicâ susceptum, 1716.

La Tyrannie vaincue, ou la Vie de Sainte Thècle, 1726.

Almanac Céleste, choisi et composé des exemples des Saints, 1782.

Les Fables d'Esope, traduites par le Prince Jablonowski.

En ajoutant ici des sermons, des homélies, des rosaires, et d'autres productions des Capucins, des Jacobins, des Jésuites, productions aussi vides de bon sens que d'une raisonnable dévotion, je pourrais augmenter ces pages, et m'en rougir aux

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written as they were foolishly devised. The following is a list of some of the principal works which appeared during the first fifty years of the 18th century:---

The Jewel of Bohemia, inchased in the diadem of Poland; or the Life of St. Hedwiga, 1716.

Studium polemicum pro Doctrinâ Catholicâ susceptum, 1716.

Tyranny overthrown, or the Life of St. Thecla, 1726.

The Celestial Almanack, 1722.

Æsop's Fables, translated by Prince Jablonowski.

To these I might add an almost endless list of sermons, homilies, rosaries, and other productions of Capuchins, Jacobins, and Jesuits; works as remote from common sense as devoid of sincere and reasonable piety; but, by so doing, I should only

yeux du savant à qui j'ai l'honneur de les adresser.

Des magnats Polonais faisaient à la vérité des voyages en visitant les pays rendus célébres par les sciences et les arts; mais ces voyages n'avaient pour but que des vains plaisirs et la dissipation; et par cela même ils devinrent une source de plus pour le mal de la Pologne. Les évêques, les riches abbés, couraient à Rome, et n'en apportaient que des chapelets, des agnus, et des saintes reliques. Est-il donc étonnant que tant de circonstances fâcheuses, accumulées sur la Pologne, avaient presque étouffé chez mes compatriotes cet élan pour les sciences et les lettres, que plusieurs étrangers se plaisaient à leur reconnaître avec beaucoup de distinction?

Cependant, n'allez pas songer, Monsieur, que

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swell the bulk of my letter, and justly subject myself to derision on your part.

Some of the Polish grandees, indeed, travelled at this time through countries celebrated for their advancement in arts and sciences; and it might naturally have been expected their country would have been filled by the fruit of their travels; but, in reality, they had no object whatever but idle pleasure and dissipation, and thus they only tended to augment the evils of the nation. The bishops and abbots also deserted their offices and flocked to Rome; whence they returned laden with chaplets, *agnus dei*, and holy relics. Ought it then to be any subject of wonder, if, under the accumulated load of so many distressful circumstances, Poland was no longer able to preserve that vigor in the pursuit of science and literature which had formerly rendered her the object of admiration to foreigners of every country and every description?

Notwithstanding what I have here stated, Sir, you must not imagine that this darkness and ignorance was of very long du-

ces ténèbres de l'ignorance aient long-tems duré sur l'horizon de ma patrie infortunée. Le règne des deux rois étrangers les avait attirées ; et le déclin du dernier de ces monarques les vit se dissiper. Il y avait même des hommes éclairés pendant leur gouvernement ; mais ces hommes étaient peu actifs, ou tout-à-fait éloignés d'une vie plus utile à la patrie par l'arrogance des magnats.

Ma patrie n'existe plus. Ses enfans dénaturés, qui l'ont entraînée sur les bords du précipice, périrent dans la nuit de l'oubli. Mais, avant sa dernière catastrophe, la Pologne, quoique exposée aux plus grandes calamités dont une nation fut jamais accablée, était digne d'être comptée parmi les nations les mieux civilisées. Dans la lettre suivante j'entrerai dans des détails plus longs : ce travail me soulagera le cœur oppressé.

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ration. It had been introduced into my unhappy country during the lives of two foreign kings ; and, with the close of the latter of these, it departed. Even in the course of their government there were not wanting men of enlarged and enlightened minds ; but either these men were of an inactive disposition, or else they were, by the arrogance of the nobles, confined in a sphere which admitted of little exertion.

Of what avail, however, is it to trace the causes which led to the downfall of Poland ? She is no longer in existence ; and her unnatural children, who dragged her to the brink of the precipice, have perished with her. It is some consolation, that, before the final catastrophe, although exposed to the severest and heaviest calamities which a nation could endure, she deserved to be classed among the most civilized countries.

In my next letter I will explain myself more fully ; and this sadly pleasing duty will alleviate the burthen which every Pole must feel when he contemplates the present state of his country.

M. ORCHOWSKI TO MR. PINKERTON.

Mars 10, 1804.

Quelques circonstances désagréables, et surtout la mort de mon ami, m'ont ravi le plaisir de vous voir et de vous écrire. C'est pourquoi, Monsieur, j'ai resté en arrière de mes obligations en ce qui concerne la littérature Polonaise. Je reprends ce travail avec d'autant plus grand plaisir que vous ne paraissez pas le dédaigner : ce travail me deviendra le plus doux, si vous y trouvez quelques motifs d'intéresser vos sentimens en faveur de ma patrie. Dans ma dernière lettre je me suis arrêté au milieu du règne d'Auguste III. : je dois le continuer.

Au déclin de son âge, ce monarque, dominé par la bigoterie, devenait chaque jour plus indifférent

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TRANSLATION.

M. ORCHOWSKI TO MR. PINKERTON.

March 10th, 1804.

A variety of painful circumstances, but particularly the death of a friend, has for the last two months deprived me of the pleasure of seeing or of writing to you. It is on this account alone that I have allowed myself thus long to continue your debtor with respect to the information you requested concerning Polish literature. The kindness with which you have hitherto received the particulars that I have had the pleasure of forwarding to you, and the interest that you have taken in behalf of my unhappy country, render my task a singularly agreeable one.

My last letter concluded in the midst of the reign of Augustus III. : now therefore I re-commence from that point. In proportion as his life drew to its close, that monarch, a slave to the most abject superstition, became daily more indifferent

au sort de la Pologne, et à son ancienne splendeur. Tout y tomboit en décadence, et sur-tout la littérature et l'instruction. Mais quelques patriotes éclairés, profondément affectés d'une si triste dégradation de leur patrie, méditaient les moyens réveiller leurs compatriotes d'un long assoupissement et de leur inspirer l'amour des lettres et des sciences. Le nombre de ces hommes estimables était modique ; ils étaient cependant animés des meilleures intentions pour le bien public.

I. Le premier rang entre ces âmes patriotiques appartient, selon moi, à Stanislas Konarski.—Il fut le premier qui, armé de courage, ébranla les préjugés politiques, et montra les défauts de l'éducation de la jeunesse Polonaise. Son ouvrage, portant le titre, *Des moyens de rendre salutaires les assemblées nationales*, écrit en bon Polonais, fit ouvrir les yeux à ses compatriotes sur les vices de la

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to the future fate of Poland, and more unmindful of her former glory. Every laudable pursuit, and particularly the pursuit of mental acquirements, hastened to decay. Yet still, amidst this all-pervading degradation, some enlightened patriots, touched with compassion for their sinking country, were even then occupied in devising means to awaken their fellow-citizens from their lethargy, and to revive in them the love of literature and science.

I. The number of these men was small ; but they were animated with the best of intentions for the public weal. Among them the highest rank is, in my opinion, due to Stanislaus Konarski. It was he who first courageously ventured to oppose political prejudices, and to point out the defective nature of the mode of education then prevalent in Poland. His publication, *On the means of rendering National Assemblies serviceable*, opened the eyes of his countrymen to the

constitution politique du pays. Cet auteur s'élève dans son ouvrage contre la funeste prérogative du *liberum veto*, accordée à tout membre de la Diète, prérogative dont on a fait de plus funestes abus. Les grands de Pologne, qui cherchaient souvent leur fortune dans le désordre public, ne pardonnèrent pas à l'auteur ce travail salutaire: il en éprouva bien des désagrémens. Dans son deuxième ouvrage, *Sur les moyens de corriger les vices de l'éloquence*, Konarski exposa les principes de bon goût et d'une saine logique: mais, persuadé qu'une éducation convenable manquait aux enfans des nobles, et qu'elle seule pourrait assurer à la patrie une meilleure génération que ne l'était celle de leur pères, il fonda à Varsovie un lycée, sous le nom de Collège des Nobles, y établit des professeurs capables de seconder ses vues, introduisit de

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abuse that existed in the political constitution of the nation. He boldly attacked the privilege granted to each member of the Diet under the name of the *liberum veto*; a privilege often most fatally abused; but he was opposed by the grandees, whose principal influence was acquired and maintained by fomenting civil discord. They could not forgive him for dragging to the eye of day their secret manœuvres and plots; and he found that the task which he had undertaken was an unthankful and invidious one. In his second publication, *On the Mode of Correcting the present Defective Style of Eloquence*, he explained the principles of good taste and of sound logic. Fully convinced that nothing short of a better mode of education could ameliorate the state of Poland by introducing a spirit of improvement in the rising generation, and aware also that the means of acquiring such an education were wanting, he founded at Warsaw a lyceum, called the College of the Nobility, established in it professors capable of forwarding his views, introduced a course of useful study, took upon himself

bonnes études, en fut lui-même recteur, et, par ces moyens, rendit à la patrie un service d'autant plus éminent que les rois de Pologne n'en avaient point pensé.

II. Dans le même tems vivait aussi Venceslas Rzewuski, héritier d'une grande fortune et plus encore de la gloire de son aïeul, que Jean Sobieski appelait son bouclier. Venceslas Rzewuski, quinze à dix-sept fois député à la diète générale des troupes Polonaises, plein de goût et de connoissances, écrivit en beaux vers et en bonne prose des tragédies, des comédies, des poésies légères, des discours politiques et moraux. Ce citoyen éclairé avait trois fils: il leur donna une bonne éducation, et fit pour leur instruction une rhétorique en bon style et une poétique en vers purs et bien tournés. Ces ouvrages recueillis il fit imprimer sous le nom

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the office of director, and thus rendered to his country a service the more praiseworthy, as not even her monarchs had attempted any thing of the kind.

II. At the same time lived also Venceslas Rzewuski, a man who inherited a princely fortune, and a still more princely name, bequeathed to him by his grandfather, whom Sobieski was wont to call "his buckler." Venceslas had been deputy at the Diet in fifteen or sixteen different sessions, and had repeatedly commanded the Polish army: with these important and serious avocations he combined an elegant taste for literature, and was himself a distinguished author: he composed both tragedies and comedies, as well as fugitive pieces; and he also wrote political and moral treatises. He had three sons, to whom he gave an excellent education, and for whose use he compiled a system of rhetoric in correct and simple prose, and an art of poetry in elegant and well-arranged verse. The same works he afterwards published under the name of

d'un de ses fils, nommé Joseph Rzewuski. La deuxième édition de ce recueil parut en 1762. Dans la poétique dont je viens de parler, on remarque une strophe sur les tragédies Anglaises :— voici ce que l'auteur en dit : " La muse tragique qu'on entend sur les bords de la Tamise n'observe pas les lois prescrites par Horace : cependant elle arrache des larmes aux yeux des beautés Anglaises : l'imagination et l'harmonie embellissent ses accens, et enchantent le cœur et l'esprit. Qu'importe que la scène s'éloigne des anciens préceptes? elle est bonne quand elle fait verser les larmes."

III. Dans la même époque une Dame, nommée Druzbacka, inspirée par une muse bienfaisante, fit entendre les accens d'une lyre harmonieuse, et en charma les oreilles de ses compatriotes étonnés. Cette Dame ne contribua pas peu au progrès de la poésie en Pologne.

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one of his sons, Joseph Rzewuski. The second edition of this collection appeared in 1762. The Art of Poetry just mentioned contains the following passage upon the tragedies of the English stage : " The tragic muse whose voice is heard on the banks of the Thames, however regardless of the rules prescribed by Horace, beguiles the English fair of many a tear. Imagination and harmony embellish her strains, and enchant at once the heart and the mind. What matters it then how far the scene be regulated by ancient precepts? The most decisive proof of the excellence of the art is to be found in the tears that it elicits.

III. At the same period, a lady of the name of Druzbacka, inspired by a muse of singular sweetness, astonished and delighted her countrymen with the melody and elegance of her poetic effusions, and contributed in no small degree to the advancement of the art of poetry in Poland.

IV. Bohomolec publia plusieurs comédies en bon Polonais et des discours écrits avec pureté. Minasovicz donna une traduction de Martialis, et Boreyko traduisit les Partitions de Cicéron.

Comme les lettres et les sciences n'étaient totalement éteintes en Pologne, mais leur splendeur fut éclipsée par les ombres qui entouraient le trône, il ne fallut qu'une étincelle pour rallumer leur ancien éclat. Les écrits dont je parle devinrent cet éclair qui perça l'obscurité : les esprits des Polonais se réveillaient chaque jour; et les secours de quelques particuliers y contribuaient plus efficacement encore.

Quatre personnages éclairés de la famille de Zatuski possédaient consécutivement pendant un siècle des cathédres épiscopales. Après avoir rassemblé jusqu'à vingt mille ouvrages des seuls auteurs Polonais, ils avaient établi à Varsovie une vaste bibliothèque. Ce trésor vraiment royal fut

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IV. Bohomolec published several comedies in elegant language, and several treatises written with great purity of style; while Minasovicz translated the epigrams of Martial, and Boreyko rendered Cicero's treatise *de Oratore* into correct and forcible language.

As literature and science were not yet totally extinct in Poland, but merely veiled by the mist which emanated from and surrounded the throne, a spark only was needed to rekindle the slumbering flame; and the writings I have just mentioned became that spark.

Four singularly-gifted individuals, of the family of Zatuski, also mainly contributed to produce this happy effect. These men, who for the course of a century consecutively filled the chairs in our cathedrals, had succeeded in collecting the works of 20,000 Polish authors, and had established at Warsaw an immense library. The treasure was really a princely one;

ouvert par ses propriétaires à leurs compatriotes au moment que les lettres et les sciences commençaient à reprendre leur ancienne vigueur. Ce service était bien utile à la patrie. Un des Zatuski fit plus . il céda à jamais ce trésor inestimable à l'usage de la nation. Jamais un citoyen n'a payé mieux les bienfaits de sa patrie libérale. Mais, hélas ! il n'a pas prévu, ce vertueux Zatuski, que son don magnifique deviendrait un jour la proie aux destructeurs de la Pologne. Cette bibliothèque, après le dernier partage de ce pays infortuné, fut transportée à Pétersbourg. Elle y reste jusqu'à présent dans le désordre et la confusion.

La renaissance des belles-lettres fut suivie de celle des sciences et des travaux plus utiles.

V. Wiszniowski publia en Polonais trois volumes de *Dialogues Philosophiques* très estimés ; et, par ce moyen, rendit la philosophie familière au beau sexe.

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and, with a spirit no less princely, they threw it open to their countrymen at the very moment when literature was beginning to revive ; and they thus rendered an inestimable service. Nor did they confine themselves to this ; but one of them actually presented the books to the nation, little suspecting the lot that awaited them. In the course of the succeeding wars his splendid gift fell into the hands of the plunderers of Poland ; and, at the final partition of the kingdom, the library was transferred to St. Petersburgh, where it remains at the present moment in utter confusion.

The revival of the belles-lettres was succeeded by that of science and of the more useful pursuits.

V. Wiszniowski published in Polish *three volumes of Dialogues on Philosophical Topics*, which have obtained much celebrity, and have rendered science familiar to the fair sex.

VI. Nakcyanowicz, professeur d'astronomie à l'Université de Wilna, composa un *Cours de Mathématiques* à l'usage des élèves de l'Université. Ce qui mérite d'être remarqué à l'occasion de cet ouvrage, c'est qu'une dame Polonaise, nommée Comtesse Puzyna, en prit sur elle les frais typographiques. Cette dame illustre mérita une plus grande reconnaissance de la part de ses compatriotes: sa libéralité s'étendit jusqu'à faire une riche acquisition des instrumens astronomiques pour l'observatoire de Wilna.

VII. Dogiel publia un *Codex Diplomatique*, contenant les traités, les alliances, et les conventions entre la Pologne et la Bohême, la Hongrie, l'Autriche, le Dannemarc, la Bavière, le Brandebourg, la république de Venise, la Saxe, le Duché de Brunswick, la France, la Hollande, et la Transylvanie. L'auteur de ce *Codex* ne s'était imaginé

VI. Nakcyanowicz, professor of astronomy at the university of Wilna, published a *Course of Mathematics* for the use of the students there. On the subject of this work it deserves to be recorded, that a Polish lady, the Countess Puzyna, undertook to defray the expense of the publication. Her liberality also extended to the purchase of a large collection of astronomical instruments for the use of the observatory; an instance of munificence which it is scarcely possible too highly to appreciate.

VII. Dogiel published a *Codex Diplomaticus*, containing a series of the several treaties, alliances, and conventions, entered into by Poland with Bohemia, Hungary, Austria, Denmark, Bavaria, Brandenburg, Venice, Saxony, the Duchy of Brunswick, France, Holland, and Transylvania. The author of this *Codex* little thought that the monument which he had raised with great labor, and which he had vainly imagined

que ce monument politique, sur la foi duquel sa patrie reposait, n'a dû lui servir que d'un appui précaire dont la fragilité entraîna sa ruine totale.

VIII. Chmielewski, philologue, fit un choix de ce qui se trouve plus instructif, curieux, et amusant dans l'Histoire Naturelle et Civile, dans les Arts, et dans les Voyages, et en publia un recueil en quatre volumes en quarto.

IX. Lubieniecki, auteur d'une *Cosmographie* en folio, assez instructive.

X. Niesiecki, auteur d'une *Héraldique Polonaise*, travail d'un peu de valeur aux yeux d'un philosophe. Mais cet auteur avait pour but de rendre hommage à des hommes qui ont rendu des services importans à la patrie, et en même tems de rappeler à ceux qui portaient leurs grands noms les vertus de leurs ancêtres. Sous ce rapport, le tra-

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would be a bulwark to his country, would immediately fall before the first blow of the sword, only affording another example how impotent is the pen or the oath where good faith and good principles are wanting.

VIII. Chmielewski made a selection of curious and interesting matter, connected with Natural History and the Arts, adding copious extracts from books of travels. This he published in 4 volumes, 8vo.

IX. Lubieniecki was author of a *Cosmography* in folio, an instructive work.

X. The last author I shall mention is Niesiecki, who composed a work entitled *Polish Heraldry*, a book of but little value in the eye of the philosopher. But, inasmuch as his object was to pay a well-merited homage to those illustrious individuals who had rendered important services to their country, and by holding them out as examples to incite their posterity to imitate their virtues, his volume deserves a respect it

vail de Niesiecki mérita de l'estime, et fut placé dans la maison de tout gentilhomme Polonais.

C'est dans cet état que se trouvait la littérature, lorsque Auguste III. cessa de vivre, le 5 Octobre, 1763, le même jour où il avait monté au trône de Pologne, et qu'il possédait pendant l'espace de trente ans. L'histoire n'a qu'imparfaitement tracé le tableau de son règne. Cependant, pour en former une idée, il suffit de citer quelques lignes d'une proclamation que le primat viceroi de Pologne fit publier après sa mort pour inviter la noblesse à la diète d'élection, et pour exhorter les principaux membres de la république à être unis de sentimens dans l'affaire d'une si grande importance. "Ils feront attention pendant l'interrègne," leur disoit le primat, "à l'état présent de la république, dont nonseulement tout citoyen, mais encore tout étranger, peut aisément prévoir que la ruine entière ne saurait être bien éloignée.

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would not otherwise be entitled to, and it found a place in the library of every Polish gentleman.

Such was the state of our literature when Augustus III. died, on the 5th October, 1763, the very anniversary of the day upon which he mounted the throne that he filled for the space of thirty years. The history of his reign has been hitherto only faintly sketched; but you will have an adequate idea of its character by perusing the first few lines of a proclamation, issued upon his death by the primate viceroy, to summon the members of the diet to meet for the election of a new sovereign, and, at the same time, to exhort them to unanimity in so momentous a crisis. It ran as follows: "Let me intreat you to direct your earnest attention, during the interregnum, to the present state of the republic, whose imminent danger cannot fail to be observed, not only by every citizen, but by every

Nous avons vu depuis trente-sept ans toutes les diètes rompues. Ce vaste empire, qu'environnent de toutes parts des voisins aguerris et puissans, est abandonné depuis près d'un demi-siècle à sa propre destinée. Les loix sans exécution, la justice sans vigueur, la liberté est opprimée, le commerce presqu'entièrement éteint, les bourgs et les villages ruinés, le trésor public sans argent, et l'argent sans valeur intrinsèque."

Lorsque, dans ma lettre précédente, je vous ai parlé, Monsieur, de l'insolence des magnats et de l'imbécilité des deux rois de la maison de Saxe, peut-être vous y avez trouvé beaucoup d'exagération. Mais les lignes que je viens de citer m'en justifieront sans doute. Personne n'est autant que moi pénétré des malheurs de ma patrie, et je n'en vois des plus funestes instrumens que dans la sottise de l'aristocratie Polonaise, et dans la bêtise

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stranger. For thirty-seven years our diets have been continually interrupted. This vast empire, surrounded on every side by warlike and powerful neighbors, has been for nearly half a century abandoned to its fate. Our laws have not been carried into execution, public justice has been without vigor, our liberty has been oppressed, our commerce almost wholly extinct, our towns and villages ruined, our public treasury destitute of funds, and our currency destitute of value."

When in my preceding letter I dwelt upon the insolence of the Polish grandees, and the utter imbecility of the king sent us by the house of Saxony, it is far from impossible, Sir, but that you thought me guilty of exaggeration. The lines that I have just quoted will but too well justify my assertions. No one can possibly feel more deeply afflicted than myself at the sufferings of my country; and, in tracing the origin of these sufferings, I see no causes which have equally operated to pro-

des deux rois. Sous un chef digne de son poste, sous un chef lion, je me plais de répéter notre proverbe, "les moutons sont lions;" mais, sous un chef mouton, les lions mêmes dégénèrent en brebis.

Auguste II. fut léger, fastueux, débauché: les magnats Polonais l'étaient aussi. Auguste III. ne pensait qu'à la bigoterie: ceux-ci devinrent de bigots indolens. Lorsque, dans l'histoire de son tems, Frédéric II. peignait les mœurs de l'Europe au milieu du dix-huitième siècle, il a tracé d'une plume de fer ces lignes injurieuses en parlant de mon pays. "Dans les tems passés, les cours d'Allemagne paraissaient des temples où l'on célébrait des bacchanales: actuellement, cette débauche, indigne de la bonne société, a été reléguée en Pologne. Autrefois, il n'était point de cour en Alle-

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duce them as the senseless stupidity of our aristocracy and of these two sovereigns. Your proverb, which I have great pleasure in repeating, tells us that even sheep will become lions when they have a lion for their king; and assuredly the converse holds equally good, that set but a sheep to reign over lions, and the lions will be converted into sheep.

Pride, trifling, foppery and debauchery, were the prominent features of the character of Augustus II.: the same were also reflected in the nobles of his court. In Augustus III., bigotry was the ruling and almost the exclusive passion; and look to those who surrounded him, and you find them a troop of indolent bigots. When Frederick II. drew the picture of the state of society in Europe in the middle of the eighteenth century, it was with an iron pen that he wrote the following lines descriptive of my country: "In former times the German courts were but so many temples dedicated to the god of wine, in which his bacchanals performed their orgies without restraint or decency: at present this profligacy is banished from good society, and has taken refuge in Poland. Buffoons, in days of

magne qui ne fût remplie de bouffons: la grossierté suppléait à l'ignorance des convives; et l'on entendait dire des sottises, faute de pouvoir dire de bonnes choses. Cet usage, qui est l'opprobre éternel du bon sens, a été aboli; et il n'y a que la cour d'Auguste II., roi de Pologne et électeur de Saxe, où il se conservait encore." Frédéric le dit en parlant de l'an 1740, qui fait le commencement de son histoire. Si je voulais réfuter cette assertion et avancer qu'elle venait de l'ennemi de son roi voisin, je ne serais point écouté. Si je la laissais sous le silence, une tâche noire resterait sur tous mes compatriotes, qui ne la méritent nullement. Elle ne doit être appliquée qu'aux rois, aux princes, aux grands de Pologne, qui vivaient sous les yeux de Frédéric II. J'ose affirmer qu'il serait injuste de confondre le gentilhomme, le

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yore, surrounded every throne in Germany: the guests admitted to the prince's table indulged in every species of grossness; and obscenity held the place of wit, equally to the disgrace of good breeding and good sense; but these practices are now happily abolished; and it is only at the court of Augustus II., king of Poland and elector of Saxony, that they are suffered to exist." The passage I have quoted will be found under the head of the year 1740, with which his history begins. Were I to endeavor to refute this assertion, and maintain that it was a calumny originating in the hostile feelings of a neighboring potentate, I should obtain no credence. On the other hand, the suffering of it to pass in silence not only serves to confirm its truth, but may be considered to affix a stigma, which is in reality very little deserved, upon the whole body of my countrymen. Such a censure can be applied with fairness only to the Polish kings, princes, and grandees, who lived in the time of Frederick II. To extend it to our gentlemen, citizens, and peasantry, were the height of injustice: these three classes abound in examples

bourgeois, et le paysan Polonais. C'est dans ces trois classes qu'il fallait chercher le patriotisme, le courage et les mœurs irréprochables: on ne manquerait pas d'en trouver les exemples. La lumière même et les talens qui méritaient quelque attention n'étaient que dans les deux classes moyennes. Mais peu de fortune, et point d'union entre les membres qui composaient le peuple Polonais, rendait infructueux leur patriotisme, leur courage, et leurs talens.

Je finis cette lettre, déjà trop longue, en vous assurant, Monsieur, de mon estime, et de mon respect, qui en est naturellement inséparable, et sera constant puisqu'il est sincère.

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of patriotism, of courage, and of exemplary morals. Indeed it is only in the middling ranks of our society that information and talents beyond what falls to the ordinary lot of mankind are to be met with; in these they have always been conspicuous: but all the talents, all the courage, and all the patriotism of Poland have been rendered fruitless by the want of fortune and want of unanimity that have unhappily long prevailed among the population of the country.

MR. PINKERTON TO ——————.*

Rue des Moulins, No. 542, à Paris,
April 20th, 1804.

If you wish to publish one of the most important of modern voyages, I can safely recommend the

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* Mr. Pinkerton, at the same time that he has left the rough draught of this letter, has left no means of ascertaining the

work to you. It will present the four journeys of Colonel Gordon, commandant of the Dutch troops at the Cape of Good Hope, into the interior of Africa, in one of which he discovered the great Orange River, which remains undescribed and almost unknown in maps. The original views, &c. are about four hundred, of which a selection

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party to whom it was addressed. He was zealous in his endeavors to serve Madame Gordon; and, for that purpose, he also applied to Messrs. Longman and Co., and to Mr. White, and even to Messrs. Cadell and Davies, notwithstanding his differences with them. But all these gentlemen declined entering into the speculation. Mr. Barrow's excellent work on the same subject had just made its appearance, so that Colonel Gordon's was in a great degree superseded; and it was feared the publication would be of too expensive a nature to afford much chance of remuneration; nor were the times favorable for large speculations. From the following letter it appears as if Mr. Pinkerton were at this very time actually in treaty with some French bookseller, and had even brought the negotiation into a tangible shape. But nothing farther occurs upon that subject in this correspondence, except an allusion to it in a letter from Madame Gordon, dated 19th April, 1806. At the close of 1804, the manuscripts were offered to the French government, with whom Madame Gordon endeavored to stipulate that one of her sons, then an ensign in the army, should be made a lieutenant-colonel, and the other, who was serving in the navy as a lieutenant, should be promoted to the rank of post-captain. But Bonaparte's officers were not so formed. Denon took a kind interest in the affair: there is a letter of his, stating that he had recommended the purchase to the emperor, but without success; and that he advised Mr. Pinkerton to lay them before the minister of war, to the papers of whose office, in the geographical department, they would form an important accession.

may be made for the publication; but all must remain the property of the widow.

The work may form one or two volumes in 4to., as you feel inclined to more or less expense. The manuscripts are in the Dutch language; but, if the work be published in London, I should arrange and digest the whole in English; and it might be printed here under my eye, or the manuscript and drawings sent to London by a safe conveyance.

If you do not choose to purchase the absolute property, perhaps you may wish to have the preference in an English translation; in which case Madame Gordon will stipulate with the French bookseller to send you the sheets on your paying her the usual perquisite. But, in case you purchase the work, you may arrange matters with her for the French translation. In all respects she is a religious and most respectable character, and too wealthy to stoop to any duplicity: so you may rest assured that if you purchase this work no other edition will be thought of, and even the French translation left to your own discretion.

I suppose 600*l.* for one, or 1200*l.* for two volumes, would be a fair price. Less than 600*l.* for one would not be accepted, as the booksellers here offer a corresponding value, and with less trouble.

I beg your answer as soon as possible.

MADAME GORDON TO MR. PINKERTON.

Avril 27, 1804.

Je vais peut-être mettre votre patience à bout par toutes mes réflexions; mais pensez, je vous prie, que je traite un sujet qui est au-delà de ma sphère, et vous ne pourrez me savoir mauvais gré de ma façon de juger les choses dont je parle du même œil qu'un aveugle juge des couleurs: mais je ne pourrai errer avec un guide aussi éclairé que vous. Ainsi, permettez-moi de vous communiquer mes idées telles qu'elles sont; et tenez-les pour nulles, si elles ne sont pas conformes aux coutumes usitées en pareil cas. J'ai mis toute ma confiance en vous

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TRANSLATION.

MRS. GORDON TO MR. PINKERTON.

April 27th, 1804.

Fearful as I am lest my difficulties and scruples should weary out your patience, I nevertheless venture to trouble you with them, trusting that you will pardon any errors I may fall into in speaking of matters out of my sphere, and of which I am probably no better qualified to form a judgment than a blind man is of colors. At the same time therefore that I trouble you with my opinions, I beg of you to pay no more respect to them than they intrinsically deserve. My great satisfaction is, that under the direction of a guide so enlightened as you, I am sure to go right. No one knows better than you what is customary in these matters; and my confidence in your knowledge

pour l'arrangement de ces ouvrages, et leur début: votre délicatesse et votre honnêteté doivent être mes garans que vous agirez dans tous les points pour le mieux de la chose; et, partant de là, vous avez carte blanche.

1. Il me semble que le nombre des exemplaires que le libraire demande est trop considérable; car, si je comprends bien la chose, il veut avoir 3,000 exemplaires in-8vo, et 300 in-4to; et je crois qu'il faut bien du tems pour vendre autant de livres, et que cela retardera beaucoup une deuxième édition.

2. Le terme des paiemens est trop éloigné, et trop morcelé; car comment trouver à placer avantageusement de si petites sommes?

3. S'il faut attendre deux ou trois ans avant de savoir si on fera de nouvelles éditions, serez-

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is not greater than in your delicacy and your honor, and your zeal for the proper arrangement of my work and of its sale. In all respects I am convinced that you will act for me for the best; and I have therefore no hesitation in giving you a *carte blanche.*

In the first place, it appears to me that the number of copies which the bookseller proposes to print is too large; for, if I understand him aright, his intention is to strike off three thousand in octavo, and three hundred in quarto; and I fear that much time will be required for the sale of all these copies, so that it will be long before we can look for a second edition.

In the second place, I object to the distant periods at which he proposes to make his payments, and the small sums into which it is intended to divide them; for it appears to me impossible that money coming in such a manner should be laid out to advantage.

Thirdly, if we are to wait two or three years for a new edition,

vous encore à Paris pour veiller à ce que le libraire ne fasse que ce qu'il doit faire? et ne doit-il pas donner des cautions de ses engagemens, en cas de mort ou de faillite?

4. Au lieu des 20 exemplaires gratis qu'il veut me donner, j'aimerais mieux n'en avoir que dix in-4to, et que le surplus des dix fût ajouté en argent au premier paiement.

5. Le libraire parle du bénéfice sur une traduction Anglaise seulement; et je suis bien persuadé qu'il s'en fera une en Allemand; car on désire beaucoup cet ouvrage en Allemagne, et surtout à Berlin: il me semble donc que le même bénéfice doit être accordé pour toutes les traductions qu'il s'en ferait.

6. Lorsque toutes les traductions seront répandues dans le monde, croyez-vous encore pou-

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I am fearful lest you may have left Paris, and I may consequently be unprovided with any one to look to my interest, and to see that the bookseller does what he ought. In such case, I submit that he should give security for the fulfilment of his engagements, and also to provide against his death or bankruptcy.

Again, in lieu of the twenty copies which he proposes to give me, I should prefer receiving only ten in quarto, and letting him add the amount of the rest to the first payment.

Fifthly, the bookseller speaks of making me an allowance only in case of the work being translated into English; but I feel that I ought to claim the same privilege upon the publication of a version in German or any other language. And I am persuaded that you will see it appear very soon in German; for I know that many inquiries have been made after it beyond the Rhine, and particularly at Berlin.

Finally, after it shall be published and spread generally throughout Europe, is it your opinion that you will be able to

voir vendre les manuscrits? à quoi serviraient-ils à la nation qui les acheterait, si les amateurs peuvent se les procurer par le moyen de tous ces exemplaires, et des traductions que l'on en fera?

Je suis bien charmée que vous ayiez pris des arrangemens pour l'impression de toutes ces choses à Paris même, parce que vous êtes plus à portée de suivre le tout; et que rien n'est hasardé dans un pays éloigné de vous, surtout dans les circonstances actuelles.

N'ayant point trouvé d'assez bon peintre dans les contrées que j'habite, j'ai pris le parti de vous envoyer le portrait original de feu mon mari, pour que le graveur puisse mieux en prendre la vraie ressemblance; mais, mon cher Monsieur, c'est le seul trésor que je possède; et, par conséquent, je

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dispose of the manuscript and drawings? I put this question in ignorance, not seeing what purpose they can answer to any country, when all those persons who may be disposed to read the work can satisfy their curiosity at a small cost, either by means of the original, or through the medium of translations.

I am delighted that you have made arrangements for the publication at Paris; for you will have the opportunity of superintending every thing personally, and will not be exposed to the trouble and risk of communicating with foreign countries, which, under the present circumstances, are not trifling.

Switzerland, unfortunately, at least this part of it, is by no means favorable to the fine arts, and I have sought in vain for a painter who could make a satisfactory copy of my husband's portrait. Disappointed therefore in this, I have been obliged to send you the original, from which I have the satisfaction of knowing that the engraver will be able to produce the best likeness. But, my dear Sir, I cannot trust to you this, my greatest treasure in the world, without intreating you to take care that it comes to no harm in your possession, and with-

vous supplie de ne pas le laisser sortir de chez vous, et de permettre à celui qui doit le copier de le faire en votre présence, pour qu'aucun mal n'y soit fait, et d'en avoir un soin tout particulier : il vous parviendra par la diligence de Genève à Paris : faites-moi la grâce de m'en avertir de suite la réception, et s'il est bien conservé ; car aucun soin n'est épargné de ma part pour cela ; et lorsque la copie en sera faite, ayez la bonté de le mettre dans la même caisse où il est, et de le garder jusqu'à ce que j'aie une bonne occasion pour me le rapporter ; et alors je le ferai prendre chez vous.

Il y a actuellement à Paris un monsieur connu dans la littérature Allemande, et qui travaille à Paris, qui serait peut-être bien aise de traduire les voyages. C'est M. Frédéric Schlegel.

J'espère que votre santé est bonne ; et je fais bien des vœux pour qu'elle reste toujours telle : la saison est belle ; la nature est des plus intéressantes dans nos contrées surtout : je désire beau-

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out earnestly begging that you will never allow it to go out of your house, and will cause the artist whom you employ to work upon it in your presence. You will receive it by the Geneva diligence ; and, as soon as you do so, I hope you will favor me with the news of its safe arrival. No pains have been spared on my part to pack it carefully. When copied, I will beg the favor of you to replace it in the box in which it travels to Paris, and to allow it to remain under your roof till I meet with some friend who will bring it back with him to Switzerland.

There is now at Paris a German gentleman, Mr. Frederick Schlegel, eminently versed in the literature of that country, to which he devotes his time, who would probably be glad to be employed in translating the work into German.

coup que vous soyez hors de tout embarras pour venir en jouir avec nous.

MESSRS. LONGMAN & CO. TO MR. PINKERTON.

London, November 14th, 1804.

As it will be almost immediately necessary to print a new edition of your Geography in quarto, and fearing your corrections (as before requested) might not arrive in time, we have ordered a copy of the French translation of the work (translated as you informed us, under your own direction), which we purpose putting into the hands of Mr. Aikin, to compare with the original, and to introduce such emendations as you have given in the French work.

Should your corrections arrive in time, of course this will be rendered unnecessary. We have been some time in daily expectation of hearing from you.

MR. PINKERTON TO MESSRS. LONGMAN & CO.

Paris, December 8th, 1804.

I received yesterday, the 7th of December, your letter dated 14th of November, bearing the word *copy* at the top, whence, and from some expressions in it, I conceive that you have already written perhaps some months ago on the same subject.

If so, I assure you that I have received no letter of yours since that dated 13th October, 1803, relative to Colonel Gordon's Travels; nor is it wonderful that letters should miscarry in the present state of affairs. But perhaps, as the strain of your letter shows a little impatience, you impute to my negligence what is merely accidental. In cases of consequence you had better send your letters to Mr. Coutts, to be forwarded to M. Perrégaux, who will instantly send them to me.

You may well conceive that I am glad the quarto edition has sold off so speedily, and that a second is demanded. This I did not expect; as, in your letter of June, 1803, you say "a second edition of your Geography does not seem likely to be very soon called for," &c.: such being the case, I conceived that the work was found too expensive, and that the sale began to be heavy. I am happy to be agreeably undeceived.

It so happens that I wrote to Messrs. Cadell and Davies a week or ten days ago, to mention that the Supplement was ready. This Supplement will serve equally for the two editions; and I dare say you will agree with me, that it would be unjust to deprive the purchasers of the first edition of so expensive a book of this advantage. The corrections and additions which I am engaged by our agreement to furnish, I shall send directly; when you will please to mention when the remuneration allowed by that agreement is to take place. As I have already written in the most amicable style to Messrs. Cadell and Davies, I hope you will not persist in disputes which be-

come ridiculous after the decided success of the work, and which will certainly be injurious to all parties. Consider a moment how inhumanly I have been treated, forced to sell out stock at a great disadvantage, and after all left perhaps to perish a captive in a foreign country. And why? because I passed here in order to collect materials which I could not find in England, for a work of which you are proprietors. Consider also my legal claims: I am well advised, not only as to my share of the large-paper copies, but, in case of refusal, to a complete resumption of the copy-right, as you have cancelled all the agreements. This therefore must follow, if you persist in refusing me common justice.

I have already informed you, gentlemen, and I believe more than once, that I had too much delicacy, too much regard to my agreement with you, to take any concern whatever in the French edition. I never saw one word of it till the whole was printed; and I shall, if you wish, procure affidavits from the translator* and bookseller to that effect. You might as well suppose that I have a share in the two abridgments printing here (one

* The translator was M. Walckenaer, who also translated Barrow's Travels in Southern Africa, and Azara's in South America, and who was author of a *Fauna Parisiensis*. However Mr. Pinkerton may have taken no part in the first edition of this translation, his correspondence bears indisputable proof that he wished to be concerned in the second; for it contains a letter from M. Dentu, the publisher, dated 1st July, 1811, in which he declines his assistance, on the score that the remuneration which he asks for it is too large.

by special order of government for the colleges and academies of France), or in the Italian translation, or the edition printed in America. Yet you say, in your letter, that the French edition is "translated, as *you informed us*, under your own direction." You have only to look at my letters to see how unfounded this is. There is not only not one word of mine in the French translation, but it is hasty and slovenly, and the notes replete with inaccuracies. The only good part is the introduction by De la Croix; and you should recommend to Dr. Vince to read it, and abridge his introduction. Perhaps you had better even substitute a translation of De la Croix: at least I should, if I were sole judge.

M. Perrégaux and many others can inform you of my situation here. I am respected as a man of letters; but if I asked leave to go, I should probably be sent to Verdun. In the spring I shall make a great effort to pass to Holland, and thence to England, where I wished to have been a year and a half ago.

MESSRS. CADELL & DAVIES TO MR. PINKERTON.

London, February 11th, 1805.

We received your letter of November 29th, and Messrs. Longman and Co. have communicated to us two addressed by you to them dated the 8th and the 13th of December; from the tenor of all

which it would appear that you never received the counterpart of the bond, referring the matters in dispute to the joint arbitration of Mr. Charles Butler and Mr. Strahan, though it was sent for your signature so long ago as in March last year. The period of that bond has expired long since; and therefore, if an arbitration should still be necessary, a new bond must be prepared and transmitted to you; but, as you observe in your letter, it would be against the interest of all parties to continue disputes, and we therefore now make you another proposal, which, we trust, is calculated to settle them amicably and to prove to you, if further proof be necessary, that we are anxious to do you the most ample justice.

In the original agreement respecting the Geography it was stipulated that, in addition to the 1200*l.* positively to be paid to you for the copyright of the work, we were to pay you 200*l.* on the publication of a second edition, and a like sum of 200*l.* on the publication of a third edition; in consideration of which you engaged to revise the work previously to the printing of both those editions, and to contribute to each of them respectively, without further demand, such additions and corrections as you might judge calculated to give additional value to the work. Now, as it appears from your letters that during your stay at Paris you have been collecting many additions and corrections for the work, and as it will be advisable for us to put a new edition to the press very soon, we here offer to pay not merely the 200*l.* contingent on the second edition, but the

whole sum of 400*l.* at once into the hands of Messrs. Coutts and Co. on your account, the instant we receive the additions and corrections in question, accompanied by an acknowledgment on your part of your having, by such payment, received in full the several sums agreed to be paid to you for the entire copy-right of the Geography and the additions and corrections made thereto, and also an undertaking to furnish us, without further demand, any further improvements for the work that may occur to you thereafter. We will even do more: as you wish to be immediately accommodated with some money on account, we will request Messrs. Coutts and Co. to authorise your drawing 50*l.* in part of the 400*l.* as soon as may be.

Mr. Spottiswoode, a few days before his much-lamented death, showed us the very extraordinary letter you thought fit to write to him; but, though written in the same spirit as has dictated too many of your other letters, that shall not prevent our making this new attempt at an amicable adjustment of our differences. You mention in that letter that your counterpart of the agreement lies in a box at Mr. Coutts's: we therefore think it right to say, in case you may have any doubts of our stating the above-mentioned stipulations correctly, that our copy of the agreement shall be freely shown to any person you may appoint to examine it. The same person may also see the agreement respecting the Abridgment (which is most strangely misrepresented in your letter to Mr. Spottiswoode); as, if you continue to think that you have not had justice done you in regard

to the Abridgment, we are still ready, as heretofore, to submit every point relating to it to the proposed arbitration.

MR. GILBERT LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, Oct. 28th, 1805.

I am glad to learn you are safe again in England.* I delayed answering your letter till I

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* It was not without considerable difficulty that Mr. Pinkerton had succeeded in effecting his escape from France. At the time of the treacherous seizure of English travellers, on the rupture of the peace of Amiens, in February, 1803, he had obtained permission to remain unmolested at Paris, in consequence of his literary character, backed by the many publications of his own which he had given to the French government; and, still more, upon the plea that he was then engaged in printing in that city a translation of his *Dissertation on the Origin and Progress of the Scythians and the Goths*. But it was not long before he found his position an uneasy one. He was an object of jealousy to the French police: he did not receive from the literati of Paris the attentions and the deference he expected; and the interruption of communication between England and France, by stopping his remittances, reduced him to a state of comparative indigence. There is in this collection the rough copy of a letter from him to some person high in the French government, in which, among other reasons why he should be allowed to go, he says that it was his intention, immediately on his arrival at home, to print a work demonstrative of the advantages to be derived by both nations from a permanent peace, accompanied by a commercial treaty; and in which, speaking of his own condition, he declares that the booksellers in London, who owe him about 1000*l.*, refuse to pay a shilling till his return; and

could give some information on the subject of mineralogy for your new edition of the *Geography*. There has been an extensive vein or bed of manganese found in Aberdeenshire; and I refer you to Vol. 20, 21, or 22, I forget which, of the Transactions of the Society of Arts; but I have not seen any scientific description of it.

You appear to be uncertain, in your Mineralogy of Scotland, whether graphite (plumbago) and antimony have been found. A considerable quantity of graphite is found on the estate of the Earl of Dumfries, near Cumnock in Ayrshire. It is a continuation of a bed of coal, which, being intercepted by a whin-dyke, (Jameson says, greenstone,) changes to graphite; and, the nearer the approach to the whin, the purer the graphite. Jameson's description is very imperfect (vide *Mineralogy of Dumfries-shire*); at least so I am assured by the lessee of the mine, who is convinced that the whin has changed the coal to black-lead. An antimony mine was worked for some years on the estate of Sir J. Johnston, of Westerhall, Dumfriesshire. The ore was of fine quality; but the vein did not continue to bear. It is now abandoned.

I think your statement of the coal too short. The largest untouched field of coal in Europe, perhaps, exists in Scotland, in that singular, barren tract of country between Carluke and Cambus-

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that he has suffered considerably by bankruptcies in his absence, and that he has a house which is uninsured, and that he is living in Paris at an advanced age almost destitute of the necessaries of life, while in London he could afford to spend 700*l.* a year, the fruit of his literary labors.

nethan parishes, Lanarkshire, continuing with breaks to Douglas parish, to Glenbuck and Muirkirk in Ayrshire, and thence to the town of Ayr. The Cleugh or Wilsontown in Lanarkshire is the south-east point of this coal-field: it is thrown out by the Shotts Hills, but extends on the west down the *trough* of the Clyde.

I have desired my bookseller, Constable, to send to Longman and Rees two pamphlets by Stewart of Allanton on this subject, which I know to be pretty correct. The parcel will be at Longman's as soon as you get this. In the parishes of Carluke and Cambusnethan, this coal-field is attended with lime and iron-stone in abundance. From the Cleugh westward is a singularly barren tract that extends to a great way, and not a hill is to be seen: it is an elevated flat country, at least the risings are not more than gentle ridges: so large a tract of barren country without hills is uncommon in Scotland. The riches below ground will, however, one day or other be our chief supply of fuel; for Williams is perfectly correct in stating the coal-fields in this neighborhood as approaching to a termination. Forty years will finish all between Edinburgh and the Esk.

You have no doubt seen Jameson's Mineralogy of Dumfries-shire: read, at the same time, the critique upon it in the Edinburgh Review.* Co-

* Vol. VI. p. 228.—The article in question is one of those by which the Edinburgh Review, at its commencement, outdoing even "slashing Bentley with his desperate hook," dazzled the eyes and bewildered the brains of its readers, and, flashing like a meteor before the public, raised itself at once into a high

rundum has been found in Aberdeenshire: Mr. Sowerby can show you specimens. Some person in London may be able to give you an account of the Arkingdale mine of lead in Yorkshire, said to be one of the first in England, and only worked to bear large quantities within these two years. No other mineralogical novelty occurs. You can state that the mines of Lead Hills and Wanlochhead, (contiguous nearly,) produce about 2000 tons of lead yearly. Susannah vein at Lead Hills has been worked for sixty years with uninterrupted success, and perhaps has yielded more riches than any other vein of minerals in Europe.

On looking over your Geography, I think you omit any notice of Drury's Journal in Madagascar,* a very curious book, and one that gives a far more lively account of the state of society there than Rochon's, whose dwarfs are fabulous, I suspect; for Drury does not hint at them. The like fable of dwarfs is told of Borneo. "The Journal or

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degree of reputation, which the sound good sense, and quiet judgment, and comprehensive views, and deep erudition of its subsequent writers has conspired to preserve. Happily, Mr. Jameson was too solid a mineralogist, and too able a man, to be deterred from pursuing his very useful career by such attacks.

* Notwithstanding the hint here given, Mr. Pinkerton, in his *Collection of Voyages and Travels,* published in 1814, takes no further notice of Drury's work than to insert its title in the catalogue of books which treat of Madagascar, with the addition, "the authenticity of this amusing work seems now fully established;" while, at the same time, he has inserted a translation of the whole, or nearly the whole, of Rochon. More justice has been done to Drury by Boucher de la Richarderie, in his *Bibliothèque des Voyages,* IV. p. 272.

Voyage of Thomas Pellow, prisoner in Southern Africa," (that is, in Morocco,) from 1720 to 1736, is curious, and appears to me to be authentic. I never met with another copy but that in my possession. It agrees well with the picture of the Moors by Lempriere.* I by accident turned up a passage in a volume of Dr. Anderson's *Bee*, in which Marshall's Travels† are declared to be fictitious, and no better authority than the Memoirs of Peter Henry Bruce. I always esteemed Marshall as a very sensible traveller; and, though the name may be assumed, I think the travels authentic. Some of the elder booksellers can explain this point.

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* *A Tour from Gibraltar to Tangier, Sallee, &c., and thence over Mount Atlas to Morocco, including a particular account of the Royal Harem, by Wm. Lempriere, apothecary to his Majesty's Forces.*—London, 1791, 8vo.

† *Joseph Marshall, Esq., Travels through Holland, Flanders, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Lapland, Russia, the Ukraine, and Poland, in the years* 1768, 1769, and 1770. London, 1772—1776, 3 vols. 8vo.—Of this work also Mr. Pinkerton contents himself with merely giving the title; but the author of the *Bibliothèque des Voyages*, while he does justice to Mr. Marshall's remarks on agriculture, which was the principal object of his travels, observes, that he has made serious errors in geography, particularly in Denmark, where he has created a town and a harbor in a place where none ever existed, and charges him with declaring that he had been hospitably entertained by a *Baron de Roncellen* and a *Count de Smikelane*, men never heard of in Denmark. It is, most probably, these and similar inaccuracies which led to the observations here made by Mr. Laing, for whose attack upon the veracity of Peter Henry Bruce I am unable to account. Coxe, who ought to be a competent judge, bears at least an implied testimony in his favor, by making a considerable extract from his work.

I am told that the friends of Williams* (Mineral Kingdom) have offered Longman a new and enlarged edition from the author's manuscripts. It is a pity that this should not fall into the hands of some good editor, who has travelled through Scotland, and has mineralogical knowledge enough to enlarge the book with personal observations. Dr. Murray of this place would be well qualified.

My brother has sent you copies of his *History of Scotland,* four volumes, and *Ossian,* two volumes.

SIR WM. OUSELEY TO MR. PINKERTON.

Crickhowell, Abergavenny, Nov. 16th, 1805.

Many thanks for your obliging letter. You have ever been zealous in my behalf; and the frankness with which you give me your opinion and advice is an additional proof of friendship. There is no man whose counsels, where literary matters are in question, can ever have such weight with me as yours; and I therefore rejoice that I have lain by for the last three or four years.

The materials which I have compiled in the course of reading during that time, on various subjects, will, I trust, enable me, with the help of my brother's fine collection of manuscripts, to pro-

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* John Williams, Mineral Engineer, published the *Natural History of the Mineral Kingdom, in three parts.*—London, 1789, 3 vols. 8vo.—A new edition of this work, which Mr. Laing here wishes for, appeared in Edinburgh in 1810, under the care of Dr. Millar.

duce, some years hence, such a work as may be worthy your approbation and that of our learned friends on the continent. My brother expects to be in London before the end of this month, and promises himself much pleasure in your acquaintance. Pray have the goodness to introduce him to Mr. Browne. He longs to have you and some other literary friends to a snug, *rational* party at his house. I hope to be more fortunate in seeing Browne the next time I visit London, than when last there: as soon as Lady Ouseley's *accouchement* shall take place, I have promised to pass a fortnight or three weeks with my brother in town. He will deliver to you the four little volumes, which form the most extravagant, the most—I don't know in what terms to express my opinion of the work.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. M. LAING.

No. 7, Clement's Inn, Dec. 6th, 1805.

I could not find the map for the copy of my *Recherches,* but have now found it, and shall send it the end of this month.

The defect of eleven books might have been removed by a twelfth, containing an account of the Manners, Literature, &c. &c. of Scotland during the seventeenth century. This very interesting addition I recommended at the first. Your Dissertation on Mary's guilt is excellent; but the other would have been far more interesting.

As I mean soon to publish my History of Scotland, 1371—1542, in 8vo., I shall be greatly obliged to you, if you will tell me freely (nay, very freely as a friend) what is said of the style, and any faults in it, on your side of the Tweed. I can correct all in this second edition, and beg you will not hesitate to tell me all.

DR. SHAW* TO MR. PINKERTON.

London, Jan. 1st, 1806.

I have added a few observations to some of the European countries, which may perhaps serve to amuse the reader a little. You have given so good a general abstract of the Zoology of each, that hardly any thing in the larger branches need be added. I mentioned some slight errors in the work, the memoranda of which I cannot find; but they were only three or four at most, one of

* George Shaw, M. D., one of the Librarians of the British Museum, and author of *General Zoology*, of *The Naturalist's Miscellany*, and of many other works on Natural History. He died in 1813. Of the assistance derived from Dr. Shaw to the second edition of his Geography, Mr. Pinkerton speaks in the following words:—"Conceiving that the Zoological part might admit of some improvements, in hands profoundly versed in that science, the author applied to Dr. Shaw of the British Museum, whose works have acquired a deserved reputation at home and abroad. He has kindly lent his aid, as the reader will observe from the Zoological remarks at the end of each volume; those on Australasia being of considerable extent, but authorised by the novelty, variety, and curiosity of the animals of that region."—*Advertisement*, p. xxvii.

which you say you have already secured, viz. that relative to the ourang-outang. The chief of those remaining was, I recollect, a passage taken, I believe, from Mr. Tooke, in which mention is made of *boars' tusks* found fossil of such a size as to weigh, I think, a thousand pounds, or some such thing. I forget the particulars; but, though scientific people would easily rectify the error, common readers might seriously suppose that boars of the size of elephants had once existed.

When the work comes out, which will certainly be one of the most valuable and improving in the English language, Mr. Longman is to send me a well-bound copy, which he will, I presume, accompany with the compliment agreed on between us; so that I think it need not be particularly mentioned to him at present.

MR. MONROE* TO MR. PINKERTON.

London, Jan. 20th, 1806.

I had the pleasure to receive yours of yesterday this morning, as I had last night the inclosed

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* At the time of writing this letter, Mr. Monroe was residing in England as Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States, by whom he was much employed in important missions. He published a *View of the Conduct of the Executive in the Foreign Affairs of the United States, as connected with the Mission to the French Republic during the years* 1794-5, *and* 6; *illustrated by his Instructions and Correspondence.*—Philadelphia, 1798, 8vo.

sheets of your Account of the United States. I see nothing to correct in it as far as it goes. You make a just distinction between general geography and topography; and, from the sketch which these sheets give, (for my engagements have been such as to prevent my perusing any part of the last edition of your work,) I am strongly persuaded that you will omit none of the details which may with propriety be classed under the former head. You appear to me to take up the work with a proper spirit, and to direct the attention to proper objects. I hope you will not be misinformed on any material fact: indeed there is little cause to be uneasy on that point.

The difference in the character of the emigrants to Virginia and Massachussetts, the former the cavaliers or adherents of the royal cause in the civil wars of the Stuart family, the latter, those of the opposite party, seems sufficiently to have taken your attention. The first President of the American Congress was Peyton Randolph, Speaker of the House of Assembly of Virginia: he was succeeded by Mr. Hancock. It is my intention to call on you on Friday, as early in the day after twelve as possible; but it is not in my power to fix the hour; nor can I positively say that I shall be able to call on that day. There are many objects which claim my attention here: besides, there are ships daily sailing to America, by which I am favored with opportunities to communicate what deserves that attention. All that I can engage for, is, to read with care whatever you may submit to my consideration; and to give you,

with the least delay that circumstances will permit, my free sentiments on it. In taking any thing from the local geographers, you will of course avoid their prejudices. Too often those gentry write more to abuse their neighbors, than to diffuse useful knowledge.

Since writing the above, I have received official returns of all the important facts relating to the United States, which are embraced by your view of that country. I shall therefore make a note of such corrections as they may require.

The returns or reports referred to, are those made annually to Congress by the heads of departments. One topic is not comprised in them; it not being of a nature to be included in an annual report. This is the state of the population. I wish for such a statement at two successive terms: that is, the last and preceding one, distinguishing the black from the white population in each. The object of it is to show the proportional increase of the black and white population, under the mild system of government which exists in the United States; a system whose effects is felt on the black, or on domestic slavery, wherever it exists. I want this account immediately for a very interesting purpose; and I should therefore be particularly thankful if you can supply it. In case you have not two returns, (that is, of two epochs,) I will thank you for any notes you may be able to give.

MR. W. G. BROWNE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Temple, March 5th, 1806.

I have submitted the manuscript to your inspection, not, as I at first proposed, in a corrected state, but just as it was written; and, if it be not too much misemployment of your time, I may request you to consider whether, on the whole, it be not much better fitted to amuse a few friends, than to be presented to the public. To perform only what thousands might perform as well, to describe only what thousands would have observed and described better, is to merit no eulogy; and I prefer obscurity to the name of producing what is neither substantially useful nor really laudable.

If, however, it can be conceived worthy of publication, I would not give you the trouble of adding any thing; but should wish you to note what additions it would be most important or advantageous to make, and which parts it might be proper to omit or to alter. If these changes would occupy a diligent man eight or ten days, I may promise to accomplish them in thirty; and I fear to grow tired of the task, if it occupied me longer. I have made two geographical sketches: the one from Constantinople to Salonica, the other from Salonica to Joannina. Of the route through Anatolia, I shall prefer giving a written account to constructing a map, unless my materials were more ample. In a map, it would be

desirable to insert both the ancient and modern names of places; and, not to mention how difficult it is to identify them with certainty, the attempt would lead to disquisitions which I am no way disposed to undertake. Nothing concerning Italy, (excepting Venice,) or the Lipari Isles, is yet extracted from my journal. Of the latter I may say something; though, from the short time consumed there, &c., the account will not be very interesting after Dolomieu and Spallanzani;* as these islands excite attention principally from their volcanic nature. As to Italy, Sicily, and the route across the Continent, what I can say about them will appear with a very bad grace, after the many, several of them good works, which have appeared on those countries.

A masterly account of the constitution and polity of Sicily, with the history and causes of its numerous abuses, would be instructive. An accurate mineralogical account of the island would also deserve praise. The natural history, as handled by De Borch,† is of very doubtful authority,

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* Dolomieu published *Voyages aux îles de Lipari, pour servir à l'Histoire des Volcans*:—Paris, 1783, 8vo.; and Spallanzani, *Travels in the Two Sicilies, and some parts of the Apennines*, the English translation of which appeared in London, 1798, 4 vols., 8vo.

† Michel Jean, Comte de Borch, was author of three separate works upon the Mineralogy of Sicily; and also of *Lettres sur la Sicile et sur l'Isle de Malthe*, printed at Turin, 1782, in 2 vols., 8vo. In this last work this author very freely censures our English traveller, Brydone, for his sneers upon the Sicilians and their religious ceremonies; but particularly, and with

and probably taken from preceding printed books. But for neither of these objects have I sufficient materials. I have, however, some few observations to add about Sicily, and a plan of the temple of Jupiter at Girgenti, not published, &c.: still, not enough to make a respectable work. The whole additional matter hitherto written, but not yet sent you, might amount to forty printed pages.

Many things occurred to me as necessary to be struck out or altered, when I looked over the copy; but I have preferred sending it in the present rough and imperfect state, and making the alterations all at once, when its fate shall be decided on; which, as the *nonum condatur in annum* does not apply to a narrative of this kind, the value of which is not increased by long delay, I intend shall be soon. Rather than hazard the publication of any thing unworthy either of the public or myself, I would take a middle course; and, making a correct copy, leave it in manuscript for the use of such friends as might desire the little information it may contain.

D'Orville, Houel, and Denon, have exhausted the antiquities of Sicily. Swinburne's is a good general account; and there are several others, as you are well apprised. Merely to note their

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great justice, for having committed to the press many observations made to him in confidence. By this conduct, with regard to the Abbé Recupero's opinions on the antiquity of lava, Brydone embroiled that worthy ecclesiastic with his bishop, and caused him great trouble.

errors would be no agreeable task; and to copy them, a much worse employment.

I hope that you will not allow this to interfere with your more serious avocations; but, at the same time, that you will signify frankly what acknowledgment would be agreeable to you for the attention you may bestow; relatively to which, I certainly desire to conform myself exactly to your wishes and commands.

MR. M. LAING TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, March 12th, 1806.

I am much obliged to you for the French translation of your Dissertation, which contains many valuable additions. You could not propose a new and improved English edition at a more favorable time. The first volume of G. Chalmers' Caledonia is now in the press, and will be published next summer. It contains all that can be said on the Celtic antiquities of this country, and of course will revive the controversy on that side of the question. I have seen the first sheet, which is by no means formidable. If I might suggest a hint, it would be to revise all your quotations and authorities; as these are chiefly, and I think unreasonably, objected to, particularly by a writer in the *Edinburgh Review*, (for 1803, p. 355, and 1804, p. 392,) who in other respects has adopted your system.

There will be inserted in some future number of the Edinburgh Review (perhaps the next) a very copious detection of Bruce, which will fully justify the censure bestowed upon his Travels in your Geography.* If you propose a new edition of your History, it might be advisable perhaps to come to Scotland for a short time, in order to examine in person some of the records to which you refer through the medium of Scotstarvet's Calendar of Charters. The chief objections which I have heard of to the style and composition, are a certain stiffness of diction, unlike the ease of your other compositions, and the anticipation of events, when their causes perhaps are mentioned, and before they come to be regularly explained; which lessens the novelty and the interest of the narrative, by diminishing the curiosity and surprise of the reader.

As to my Dissertation on Ossian, I am involved in such active occupations, that I find it impossible at present to fit up the first edition in such a manner as to render the corrections and additions intelligible to a Frenchman. If you can send over to the French translator the fourth volume of your copy immediately, I will take care to have it replaced afterwards, either by a copy of the present, or of a new edition, when demanded by

* Vol. iii. p. 813.—Mr. Pinkerton, who was never very measured in his censures, charges Bruce with being guilty "of the most gross and impudent falsification;" and adds that "his misrepresentations had rendered his name proverbial on the Continent, as that of the most ignorant and credulous of all modern travellers."—Hard words these!

the public. I can hardly suppose that my *History* (I do not mean my Dissertation on Darnley) would answer in France; but, if you think it would, you can send the third and fourth volumes over, with a recommendation to the translator to split the eleventh book into two. But I consider my History as too local for a French edition.

MR. WARDEN* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Paris, March 18th, 1806.

I received your letter of the 12th February in due time, and wrote to you by a Mr. Gamble, an American, who promised to deliver the letter with his own hand, as soon as possible after his arrival in London.

I gave you all the information I procured concerning Humboldt's work. I called at Levrault's yesterday, and was again told that a considerable time must elapse before it is completed. The volume which is to contain a general description of the country, will be the last to make its appearance. Neither the map, nor the atlas which is to accompany the work, will appear for some time. The information afforded me is far from

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* Mr. D. B. Warden, Consul of the United States at Paris, was author of a *Statistical, Political, and Historical Account of the United States of America, from the period of the first establishment to the present day, on a new plan.*—1819. 3 vols. 8vo.

being satisfactory. I am informed that the subscribers are rather dissatisfied. I mentioned your name at Levrault's. I find there is some jealousy towards you on the part of Bonpland or Humboldt, or both, which originated from some geographical dispute: perhaps you may recollect it.

The splendid edition of *Paul et Virginie* has appeared: the engravings are truly beautiful. It seems strange enough that there are no more than fifty subscribers. His Majesty, the Emperor, has lately given the author a pension of two thousand livres per annum, as one of the editors of the *Journal de l'Empire*. I am told it is a mere sinecure.

A very interesting work has appeared, entitled, *Statistique élémentaire de la France, par Peuchet.** He estimates the present population of France at 34,449,361.

The great statistical work on this country, the execution of which was committed by the minister of the interior to M. Duquesnoy, will soon be terminated, and will doubtless be supposed to be superior to the production of Peuchet.

I send you some Essays on the Winds, which appeared the other day in an English dress. The author is an American; once a lawyer, now a

* This work was published in 1805, in one volume, 8vo. The author was previously well known by a large statistical work upon France and her colonies; and by a *Dictionnaire Universel de la Géographie Commerçante*, in 5 vols. 4to., and a *Dictionnaire Universel de Commerce, Banque, Manufacture, Pêche, Navigation*, &c. in 2 vols. 4to.

farmer, who has resided several years at Paris. His name is Leavensworth.

We have heard, though not officially, that the company who were exploring Louisiana have all been destroyed. I hope the news may not be true. Though none of them were profound naturalists, they would have given much information concerning a country as yet but little known. An important fact seems to be sufficiently ascertained: viz. that all the larger rivers and streams fall into the Missouri, Mississippi, &c., and not into the Pacific. It appears also that the Missouri receives the Mississippi. What a pity that Captain Lewis and his company were not allowed to approach the Western Ocean! Literary information begins to diffuse itself more extensively throughout the United States. There are several periodical works which contain much useful knowledge. Monsieur Neuf, who has for some time taught children in Paris the elements of literature, according to the plan of Pestalozzi, (with which I presume you are acquainted,) sets out to-morrow for the United States, where he hopes his method will be encouraged. Mr. Maclure, whom you know, pays his expenses. I should be glad to have your opinion concerning what is supposed to be a great discovery in the art of teaching. The advocates for it advance some very plausible arguments. I find, however, that the *savans* here suppose it to be only calculated for children. Is there an account of it in the Supplement to the Scotch Encyclopædia, or in any other work of merit?

Several gentlemen here are anxious to know when your Geography will appear.

MADAME GORDON TO MR. PINKERTON.

Canton de Vaud, en Suisse,
Avril 19, 1806.

Votre lettre du 12 Mars me confirme que vous n'avez encore rien pu faire avec les papiers: en ce cas, je suis bien fâchée que l'on n'ait pas fini le marché que vous aviez commencé avec le libraire de Paris. Mais, ne parlons plus du passé. Vous me proposez, Monsieur, d'attendre encore une année. Cela est impossible; car, puisque l'on dénigre l'ouvrage à présent, ce n'est pas en le laissant vieillir d'une année qu'il acquerra un nouveau prix aux yeux des amateurs, qui ne seront

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TRANSLATION.

MRS. GORDON TO MR. PINKERTON.

Canton de Vaud, in Switzerland,
April 19th, 1806.

I am sorry to learn from your letter of the 12th of March, that you have not even yet been able to do any thing with my papers; and it grieves me that I did not conclude the treaty which you had set on foot with the Parisian bookseller before you left that city. It is, however, of no use to indulge in regret for what is past; but, when you recommend to me to wait yet another year, I feel that you advise what I ought not to assent to. The booksellers, you tell me, already throw cold water upon my work; and surely I cannot with any reason

pas plus curieux de la chose dans une année, qu'ils n'en sont aujourd'hui : les circonstances seront moins favorables dans une année, qu'elles ne le sont présentement : ainsi, mon cher Monsieur, je vous supplie de finir toutes ces affaires aussi promptement qu'il vous sera possible. Je suppose que la vente publique des papiers dont vous me faites l'honneur de me parler, ne se ferait qu'après l'impression de l'ouvrage. Ce qui fait deux articles indépendans l'un de l'autre. Vous ne me dites pas, Monsieur, si l'ouvrage est déjà imprimé, ou s'il n'est pas encore commencé ; cependant je désirerais beaucoup le savoir, si l'ouvrage est imprimé avant la vente des papiers : cela augmentera leur valeur.

Malgré la répugnance que j'éprouve à l'idée de faire vendre à l'encan tous ces papiers, je vaincrai

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expect that the allowing of it to add twelve months more to its age will obtain it any accession of favor in their eyes. It were indeed strange if either with them or the public it acquired a value then which it has not now.

What I rather look for is, that circumstances will wear a still less propitious aspect a year hence than at present; and I therefore intreat you, my dear Sir, to use your utmost endeavors to bring these matters to a conclusion as speedily as possible. You speak to me of exposing my manuscripts and drawings to public sale; but this, I presume, is not to be contemplated till the work shall be published, when their value would be materially increased. At all events, these two points are wholly independent of each other; and I have still to learn from you what progress is made in the printing, or even if it is yet begun; and this is a point on which I am very anxious to be informed.

I feel, indeed, an almost unconquerable repugnance to the idea of bringing these valuable memorials of my husband's

mon opinion là-dessus, et consens à la chose en cas que vous ne puissiez mieux faire, et que ce soit une façon usitée en Angleterre en pareil cas : ce sera du moins une façon d'accélérer la fin de toutes ces choses ; et vous serez bientôt convaincu que j'ai raison de désirer la conclusion de toutes ces affaires ; et qu'il est de notre intérêt mutuel d'en tirer le meilleur parti possible plutôt aujourd'hui, que demain.

Je me repose donc, Monsieur, sur votre diligence, et désire de tout mon cœur, qu'avant qu'il soit deux mois, j'aurai la certitude de votre part que je peux tirer le produit de ce qu'il me reviendra pour ma part.

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labors and abilities to auction ; but I will, nevertheless, not withhold my consent, if you find that nothing better can be done; and if, as I presume, this is the common method of disposing of such articles in England: we shall thus, at least, settle the matter speedily, which will necessarily be to the advantage of us both. Indeed, there is nothing I so much deprecate as delay.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

Eccles Street, Dublin,
Aug. 26th, 1806.

Till I saw your name in the monthly list, I was ignorant of your return. I sincerely rejoice at your being restored to your family, with whom I hope you will long enjoy uninterrupted happiness.

I took the liberty to address a few lines to you

at Paris on the subject of my *Irish Bards*. But I have as yet to learn whether or not the French translation of that work, on which your friend was then employed, has appeared. I have been informed that the Memoir on Italian Tragedy has been translated into French; but I am not sure that the information was correct.

During your absence, I published a little *Essay on the Revival of the Drama in Italy*. If you have read that imperfect work, might I beg to be favored with your candid remarks on it? Do not spare me.

As you sometimes read novels, permit me to direct your notice to Miss Owenson's *Wild Irish Girl:* it exhibits an admirable picture of the Irish. To the Irish character great justice has been lately done by Mr. Carr, in the *Stranger in Ireland*.

We are all infinitely obliged to Mr. Mathias:*

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* I should be guilty of no less injustice to my friend than violence to my own feelings, were I to omit this opportunity of joining my public testimony to that of Mr. Walker, in favor of the efforts of Mr. Mathias in the cause of Italian literature. These efforts have indeed been most praiseworthy and most extraordinary. Undeterred by labor, by expense, and, what is more than either, by the chilling indifference with which his publications were received, he has pursued his no less honorable than useful career, till he has brought a considerable portion of the classics of Italy within the reach of the English public, by editions of great beauty, great correctness, and moderate price. Many of them he has accompanied with dedicatory odes of his own composition, which show an intimate acquaintance with the structure and character of the language, seldom possessed by a native of any other country. Still more strongly is this power demonstrated in his subsequent translations of Milton's Lycidas,

he has published, in an elegant form, several neglected Italian productions of considerable merit. The last he kindly sent me was Gravina's admirable little Treatise, of which you have given so excellent an account in *Heron's Letters*.

I hope you have some new work in hand. If I can be of any use in the way of research, I trust I need not add that you may always freely command me.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. J. C. WALKER.

Clement's Inn, No. 7, Sept. 14th, 1806.

I am glad to see your hand-writing. I have been so long absent that I was not quite sure of your address; and, besides, since my return about a twelvemonth ago, have been so much overwhelmed by literary occupations, that I have scarcely written one letter, except upon indispensable business. The new edition of my *Geography*,

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and of Mason's Sappho. The reception which his publications have experienced is very delicately and feelingly illustrated by an engraving prefixed to one of his volumes, representing a swallow in the act of flying from a barren island, with the epigraph, 'Di qua non spera.' Now, in the close of life, he is enjoying himself in delightful retirement at Naples, universally admired and courted, and receiving from foreigners that respect and attention, which I deeply lament that he did not receive at home, where it was still more justly due to him, and where, if it had not been denied, he might have continued to have resided, to the satisfaction of his friends, and the honor and benefit of his country.

in three volumes quarto, enriched with all the new materials which induced me to have recourse to the libraries at Paris, still occupies all my time; but I hope to finish in two or three months* the prodigious task of a "Description of the whole World taken from original Authors."

If you see Mr. Kirwan, be so good as to tell him I have brought him two little specimens from France. I know not what monthly list my name could appear in, as I was not strictly among the prisoners of war, but respected as a man of letters.

The proposed translator of your work, having some dispute with the bookseller concerning the price, abandoned the undertaking. Soon after, he changed his lodgings; and, though I inquired repeatedly, I could not discover where he lived. I had only seen him twice, having first met him in a mixed company, where, in consequence of his speaking of his intended translation, I desired him to call upon me; and, in consequence, wrote the letter which you received.

I believe your *Memoir on Italian Tragedy* is translated; and, if you wish, I shall write to a friend at Paris to send me the translation, if extant. I long to see your *Essay on the Revival of*

* This new edition appeared in 1807. In the advertisement prefixed to it, as well as in this letter, Mr. Pinkerton takes credit to himself for his efforts to render it as perfect as possible; and it is only justice to him to state, that his correspondence furnishes abundant proof of his activity and industry in this respect; though the letters, being confined to inquiries about books of travels, or of topography, or maps, are not of a nature to interest the public.

the Drama in Italy, but do not know where to find it. The *Wild Irish Girl* I shall read on your recommendation.

If I had time, I should give a new edition of *Heron's Letters*, omitting about one third part of crude matter, in which case the book might serve the cause of Italian literature.

It was truly odd that I should have omitted an introduction to the criticism on Virgil, which was provoked by reading the Hypercritica of Julius Cæsar Scaliger, in which he has totally run down Homer to make way for Virgil, his countryman. As I am so loaded with literary toil, I should regard it as a very friendly office, if you could order an edition at Dublin, with any remarks or corrections on the parts relative to Italian literature. I should in that case send a copy with large erasures.

Command me fully, if I can assist you in any literary object here, and be assured of my constant regard and esteem.

MR. WARDEN TO MR. PINKERTON.

Paris, Oct. 2nd, 1806.

I had the pleasure of writing to you a few days ago, in reply to yours of the 5th of September. I have since seen Chardin. No opportunity for sending to Madrid offers at present, though, in the course of a few weeks, there may be some means

of procuring the maps in question. Sobreviela's* map is not in the National Library. Mr. Faujas assured me that M. Humboldt's map will appear about the 15th instant.

In my last I also informed you, that Mr. Lasteyrie has a map of South America of very large dimensions, by D. Juan de la Cruz, which was engraved by the order and at the expense of the Spanish government in 1775.† If it has not been re-engraved at London, I suspect it must be rare; as it has been sold neither in Spain nor in France.

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* According to Pinkerton, (*Geography III.* p. 782.) Father Sobreviela was sent by the Spanish government, in 1790, to explore their territories in South America. Mr. Pinkerton gives a long and interesting extract from the narrative of his travels, which, I apprehend, appeared in the *Mercurio Peruano*, a work I have had no opportunity of consulting; and he concludes it by saying: "This journey is not a little important, as it considerably improved the geographical knowledge of the country and rivers, and showed the facility of establishing an intercourse between Lima and Maynas, by which means, not only a considerable inland trade might be conducted in cinnamon, tortoise-shell, incense, indigo, and other rich and singular products of the new territory; but, in case of necessity, a messenger might pass in three months from Lima to Madrid." Sobreviela appears to have been a very sensible and useful traveller; for he mixed lessons of agriculture with spiritual doctrines to the natives, and gave them the necessary utensils of iron, which the poor Indians justly regarded as a true fortune.

† "This map, which was republished, but incorrectly, in London by Mr. Faden, in 1799, is the best yet given; though La Cruz, by a ridiculous failure, has omitted to denote in a proper manner the great chain of the Andes and other ridges, and there are also some political disguises. It was engraved at Madrid for royal presents."—*Pinkerton's Geography, III.* p. 952.

I have written a short reply to the article which appeared against you in the *Journal de l'Empire* and other gazettes; and it is inserted in the periodical work relative to the United States, the first number of which will be published next week. After your arrival in London, great pains were taken to excite a belief that you were employed in the interests of the government of England, the particulars of which I cannot write. I made considerable inquiry concerning the suspicion, and was able to trace from what quarter it came, and in some measure how it arose, which I shall at some future day unfold to you. Some art was here employed to give color to the suspicion. I endeavored to show, as often as opportunity offered, that it was totally unfounded; and I believe I succeeded in changing the opinion.

More than one copy of the *Recollections*, &c.*

* Mr. Pinkerton, on his return from Paris, instead of writing his promised work, upon the best means of establishing a permanent peace between France and England, published *Recollections of Paris in the years* 1802, 1803, 1804, and 1805, 2 vols. 8vo, 1806; a book probably well calculated to serve his purpose by a supply of ready money, but very little so to benefit his name, and eminently adapted to depress his literary character. The critique upon it in the *Edinburgh Review* (VIII. p. 413.) is cruelly, I wish I could say unmeritedly, severe. It begins by saying, "We have long known Mr. Pinkerton as a laborious polemical antiquary, and a diligent compiler of antiquarian history, in a most absurd and detestable style;" it proceeds, "our astonishment, it will be easily believed, was extreme, when we discovered, as we went on, that our plodding, pedantic, pugnacious archæologist, who left this country with a confirmed character for all these accomplishments in 1802, was, in the course of three little years, transformed into a strange likeness

have already reached Paris. With regard to the articles on the Poles, General S—— observed, and he wished me to communicate his observations, that they are not particularly attached to any foreign power; that in Prussia they have the privilege of thinking; and in Russia they preserve their customs and habits, and may be advanced to any rank in the army; but in Austria they are denied all these advantages, and suffer every species of degradation.

General Armstrong bids me offer you his respects. He again experiences another attack of fever and ague. In the absence of his Majesty he proposes to visit Italy. On the subject of American claims, and more particularly from an opinion said to be maintained by him, "that the American underwriters were not entitled to the benefits of the Convention," he has been attacked, from Georgia to the Maine, by a host of attorneys and shopkeepers, by inveterate federalists and virulent

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of a Parisian *petit-maitre*, was become a profound critic in wines," &c. &c. &c.; and, after a variety of extracts which, it must be owned, too well justify the severity of the animadversions, it sums up the whole as follows:—"We have seldom met with a more unsatisfactory or fatiguing performance than this, of which we are preparing to take leave; and we should scarcely have ventured to trouble our readers with any account of it, if it had not been to record the extraordinary transformation which the author has undergone. We earnestly hope that a few months' residence among his friends in this country will restore him to his original character; and that in his next publication we shall find him busy with historical and geographical researches, undisturbed by the nomenclature of French wines, or the recollections of French gallantry."

tories. The bitterness of political prejudice, rivalship, and the selfish passions growing out of trade, are all directed against him. On the other hand, he enjoys the esteem of the President and administration, and has not yet been heard in his own defence. As my fortunes are in some measure attached to his, I feel more deeply interested.

Knowing your avocations, I am unwilling to ask new favors; but, if convenient, I beg you to inform me whether the ensuing works are translated into English, viz. *Tracy's Ideology*, Cabanis' metaphysical work,* and Condillac on *Commerce and Government*. I have some idea of translating the last, as well calculated for the meridian of New York.

The second edition of the Abbé Haüy's work on *Natural Philosophy* has appeared: he is still occupied with a new edition of his *Mineralogy*, which will appear in the course of two years.

During the absence of General Armstrong, I remain, of course, in Paris, to attend to the business of the legation. I have the healing art still in view; but am yet undecided whether I shall make that my profession. Although I dare not ever hope for *otium cum dignitate*, yet I long for a situation in which I may in some measure be independent. My present occupation is highly favorable to improvement; but it cannot be of long duration.

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* *Des Rapports du Physique et du Moral de l'Homme, par P. J. G. Cabanis.*—Paris, 1805, 2 vols. 8vo. I do not find that this or either of the other two works mentioned by Mr. Warden were ever translated into English.

The recollection of the interest you took in my welfare prompts me to offer you these reflections. I wish I were with you for a few hours, to have your good counsels and advice.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

St. Valeri, Bray, Ireland,
Oct. 2nd, 1806.

I am happy to find I was not deceived. Having observed your *Recollections* announced in one of the monthly lists, I naturally concluded you were returned to England, and immediately determined to address you.

The new edition of your *Geography* will be a most valuable accession to our stock of elegant literature. Even in its present state, it is the best work of the kind extant, in our language at least. You must have found the libraries at Paris an abundant source of curious information.

I am truly grateful for the trouble which you kindly took in regard to my *Irish Bards*. I think Mr. Edgeworth told me that he had seen a French translation in Paris. Yet I cannot procure a copy in any of the booksellers' shops in London. I have begged of Dulau to write to Paris on the subject, and at the same time to order a copy of the French translation of the *Memoir on Italian Tragedy*, if such a publication exists. If Dulau should fail, I shall perhaps take the liberty to avail myself of your kind offer. I believe I mentioned to you

that an Italian nobleman at Milan has undertaken a translation into Italian of the *Memoir on Italian Tragedy.*

If you have not already procured a copy of my little *Essay on the Revival of the Drama in Italy,* I I beg you will honor me with your acceptance of the copy for which I enclose an order. I shall anxiously expect your remarks on that imperfect work. You will find I have attempted to do what you long since recommended to me to undertake. As I live almost entirely in the country, I seldom see Mr. Kirwan. Your message, however, shall be delivered to him. A mine has been opened on the side of a hill in this neighborhood, of which I wish I could send you a specimen.

I am rejoiced to find that you meditate a new edition of *Heron's Letters.* Your wishes shall be made known to the Dublin booksellers; and, if they should undertake an impression, you may command my assistance while the work shall be passing through the press.

I have not at present any work in hand; but it is probable I may be tempted this winter (should my health permit) to take up some untouched period of Italian history—I mean literary history. I am grieved to find that Mr. Roscoe has hung up his elegant pen.* I am much pleased with Lord

* Not so, happily! Mr. Roscoe, who, in a manner the most flattering and most honorable, had been returned Member of Parliament for his native town in the winter of 1806, only relinquished the charms of Italian literature for the more important task of taking a leading part in the politics of his country, and particularly with the object of putting a stop to that

Holland's *Life of Lope de Vega.* It is enriched with some excellent dramatic criticism, and will, I hope, assist in rendering Spanish literature fashionable.

I expect to derive much pleasure and information from Mr. Irving's *Life of George Buchanan.* His Lives of the *Scotish Poets** (of which he was so good as to send me a copy) I think an excellent work—it is curious and interesting. Dr. Ledwich thinks highly of the author's learning.

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nefarious traffic in human blood which was so long the opprobrium of England in general, and in particular of Liverpool. Nor have the efforts of this great and good man in the cause of humanity ever ceased: since the final abolition of the slave-trade, they have been directed with equal energy to the reform of our penal jurisprudence; and now, at the advanced age of seventy-seven, and even after having experienced more than one stroke of paralysis, he has just brought to a conclusion one of the most splendid and learned works that has ever been published upon the science of botany, his favorite department of natural history.

* *Lives of the Scotish Poets; with Preliminary Dissertations on the Literary History of Scotland and the early Scotish Drama, by David Irving, A. M.*—Edinburgh, 1804, 2 vols. 8vo. Mr. Irving's *Memoirs of the Life and Writings of George Buchanan* were published in Edinburgh in 1807, in one volume, 8vo, and reprinted there in 1817, with an Appendix, containing many original papers, a reprint of Buchanan's Admonitions, and other Scotish Tracts.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. J. C. WALKER.

January 15th, 1807.

My large volumes of Geography occupied me so much that I had no time to write. I read with great pleasure your "*Essay on the Italian Drama;*" but allow me to observe a radical fault. There are no great masses, no striking divisions, no epochs; so that the attention is bewildered and the memory has no pause. *Arrangement* is the first quality of a good book; and it is proper to form a *skelcton* or analysis, before putting pen to paper in the composition. The notes are often disjointed and desultory.

Excuse these few remarks of a friend and well-wisher.

MR. J. C. WALKER TO MR. PINKERTON.

January 22d, 1807.

I consider your kind favor of the 15th inst. as the strongest proof you could give me of sincere friendship. As such I accept it, and am grateful for it. I must confess, however, that I am sorry that a work undertaken chiefly at your suggestion should not be so fortunate as to meet with your approbation. Should it ever reach a second edition, I shall hope, by attending to your excellent hints, to render it less unworthy the subject. In

order to this, it would be necessary to enlarge my plan, and not to confine myself to a particular period, but to trace the history of the Italian stage from infancy to maturity. In the work in question, I have only (if I may so express myself) played about the cradle of the Italian drama. I have merely noticed its first feeble efforts to speak—the imperfect accents of childhood. My specimens and remarks are therefore confined to the earliest attempts. I could, it is true, have noticed many more dramas, which might be said to fall within the narrow limits of my plan; but I was unwilling to weary, and perhaps disgust, the generality of readers. I promised a slight Essay, and have kept my word.

Your idea, that an author should form a skeleton of his intended work before putting pen to paper in the composition, I think a most excellent one. Should I ever engage in another work, you will find your hint has not been thrown away. Something of what you recommend was attempted on the present occasion. The previous arrangement in my mind was such as the subject seemed to suggest. I determined to divide the work into sections, allotting to each respectively the different species of drama which appeared at the revival of the art in Italy, and devoting some of the concluding sections to the patrons of the art, and to the academies instituted for its promotion. This was the plan which occurred to me at the time. I will not say it was the best, but it was the best I could devise. Should I determine hereafter to

give the work a new form, I shall beg leave to consult you, my kind friend.

Allow me now to avail myself of your kind offer in a former letter. If you can, with perfect convenience, procure me the French translations of *Irish Bards, Memoir on Italian Tragedy*, and *Essay on the revival of the Drama*, I shall most thankfully reimburse you the expense. It would be obliging me exceedingly. I am sorry that it was not in my power to afford you any assistance in your great geographical undertaking. But our public libraries do not, I fear, contain any materials that would have been of use to you. If my memory does not deceive me, there are in our college library some old maps of the time of Elizabeth, by one Jobson, but they are poor things.

REV. DR. WILCOCKE* TO MR. PINKERTON.

No. 19, Arnold's Place, Newington,
April 26th, 1807.

Agreeably to your request to be informed of the principal sources whence I derived the information

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* Dr. S. H. Wilcocke resided for some time as minister of the English Church at Middleburgh in Zealand, and was the author of several works, chiefly consisting of translations from the French and German. He also wrote a poem entitled *Britannia*, and a *Dictionary of the English and Dutch Languages*, which he published at London in 1798, in a single quarto volume. His translation of Stavorinus, here particularly alluded to, is accompanied with a great mass of useful and learned

contained in my Notes to *Stavorinus's Voyages*, I have to state that they were the following:

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notes.—At the time of receiving this letter Mr. Pinkerton had entered upon the most extensive and most toilsome, though by no means the most important, of his literary labors, the publication of his *Collection of Voyages and Travels*, which he completed in 1814, in seventeen volumes quarto. It was a work altogether undertaken for the booksellers, and unquestionably with the sole object of assisting his pecuniary resources, which were at this time sadly deranged. No wonder, therefore, that such a work, in the hands of a man of such a disposition and so situated, answered the purpose of neither party. The agreement concluded between him and Messrs. Longman and Co. on the subject I here subjoin:—

Memorandum of Agreement made this thirteenth day of April 1807, between Messrs. Longman, Hurst, Rees, and Orme, of Paternoster Row, and Messrs. Cadell and Davies, of the Strand, booksellers, of the one part, and John Pinkerton, of Clement's Inn, Esq. of the other part, as follows:

The said John Pinkerton agrees that, in consideration of the payments hereinafter named to be agreed to be made to him, he will, with all due dispatch, and to the best of his talents and knowledge, compose, compile, write and edit, for the said Messrs. Longman and Co. and Cadell and Davies, a new and complete collection of all the best and most authentic Voyages and Travels to all parts of the World, which the said John Pinkerton can obtain or get access to: the said collection not to consist of fewer than ten volumes, quarto, nor to exceed twelve volumes: each volume to contain one hundred printed quarto sheets, and each printed page to be of the length and breadth of *Oddy on Commerce*, in a pica type, without spaces, similar to that of the new edition of *Hollinshed's Chronicle*.

And the said John Pinkerton agrees, that he will, from time to time, supply the said Longman and Co. and Cadell and Davies, or their printer, with sufficient copy, so as that the work may be regularly printed in monthly parts of twenty-five quarto sheets each. The first part to be published on or

Valentyn's great work, Ond & Niew Oost Indien, in 5 folio vols. 1724-26.

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before the first day of January 1808; and the rest in similar parts, at the expiration of every calendar month from that time, until the said work shall be completed.

And, in consideration hereof, the said Messrs. Longman and Co. and Cadell and Davies agree that they will pay to the said John Pinkerton, in full for his copyright in the said work, and for all his trouble and expenses in and about the same, the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds for every printed volume: the said sum to be paid to the said John Pinkerton by their acceptance at three months, as soon as each volume shall be completely printed; and they shall also pay him the further sum of one hundred pounds for the last volume of the said work, provided that the same contain an introduction to the whole work, to be composed on purpose for this collection by the said John Pinkerton.

And it is also agreed, that such extracts from foreign voyages and travels not already translated, that may be wanted for this work, shall be translated at the expense of the said Messrs. Longman and Co. and Cadell and Davies; but the quantity and price of such translations shall receive their previous approbation.

And the said Messrs. Longman and Cadell and Davies shall supply the said John Pinkerton with such books as may be necessary for the work, and as they shall think proper to procure; the same to be returned by him as soon as the work is finished, or sooner, if done with previously to that time.

Provided always, and it is hereby expressly agreed, that if the said Messrs. Longman and Co. and Cadell and Davies shall at any time hereafter choose to discontinue the publication of the said work, and to be at no further expense concerning the same, it shall be lawful for them to do so, on giving notice thereof to the said John Pinkerton at the conclusion of any or either of the volumes; and, in that case, the said Messrs. Longman and Co. and Cadell and Davies shall have the full copyright of all that shall have been printed before such notice, and shall be freed and discharged from all further

Secret Considerations and other Memorials on the Dutch East Indies, by Governor Mossel, 1758, and 1763; (works from whence Raynal drew most of his calculations: these, from obvious causes, were suppressed in Holland.) *Huyser's Description of the Dutch East-India Establishments,* printed in 1789. The author had resided long in India, and gives the most copious and apparently accurate information of all the settlements. His work has been as much as possible also suppressed by the Dutch East-India Company.

Besides these, through my brother, who was a clerk in the East-India House at Middleburgh, in Zealand, I had access to various official documents and accounts, which were of material use to me; and my long residence in Holland enabled me likewise to collect minutes on the same subject from verbal information, which I was solicitous of obtaining; as I had at first intended to have compiled an original account of the Dutch East-India Company, but afterwards abandoned that design, and threw the whole into the notes to Stavorinus. I was not personally acquainted with that traveller, but was so with his family.

If it be material, however, to know any particulars respecting him, I can procure them through a

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and future payments to the said John Pinkerton on account thereof.

It is lastly agreed, that if, before the complete printing of the first volume of the said work, the said John Pinkerton shall require the advance of one hundred pounds on account thereof, the said Messrs. Longman and Co. and Cadell and Davies shall advance the same accordingly.

Dutch gentleman now in London, who sailed as lieutenant under Stavorinus. Other collateral sources of information were found in the works of Thunberg, Raynal, Staunton, Forrest, Rennell, Thevenot, Sparrman, &c. &c.; but these are books generally accessible, and I have referred to their authorities in my notes.

I hope to get ready for you, in the course of to-day, a translation of a few pages of Perrin du Lac's Travels in Louisiana,* as a specimen. I should have sent you this, as well as the above information, at an earlier period, had I not been prevented by occupations in business. I shall be happy in any opportunity of being of service to you in your literary undertakings in any shape suitable to the compass of my abilities.

SIR JOS. BANKS TO MR. PINKERTON.†

Soho Square, June 5th, 1807.

In answer to yours, I am sorry to inform you that my correspondence with France has been of

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* M. Perrin du Lac's work, entitled *Voyage dans les deux Louisianes*, was published at Paris in 1805, in one volume 8vo. It was the following year translated into German, but has never, that I am aware, appeared in English. More than a third part of the volume is filled with details relative to the United States, which are very devoid of novelty or interest; and, although the remainder contains a variety of facts which mark an attentive and enlightened observer, they have not been sufficient to preserve the book from oblivion.

† My object in printing this short, and otherwise uninteresting

late considerably interrupted by the last regulations of the French Emperor: on which account, as well as on many others, I have for some time thought it prudent to cease to make applications in favor of my countrymen, as I was always ready to do when I saw a fair prospect of success.

Thus circumstanced, I cannot at present undertake to interfere in Mr. Cadell's favor; but if on any future occasion I see a prospect of success, I shall be ready to take such steps as may in my opinion, and in that of his friends, appear likely to promote his liberation.

MR. ALLEN TO MR. PINKERTON.*

Howick, Oct. 24th, 1807.

Your very angry, and, as it appears to me, very unjust complaints against the Edinburgh review-

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letter, has been to record a circumstance scarcely more honorable to Sir Joseph Banks than to the French government, that such was their respect for his character that they liberated many Englishmen who were originally among the number of the *détenus*, or who had subsequently been made prisoners, upon receiving an assurance from him that the individuals in question were men of letters, and not in any way employed by the English ministry.

* The article in the *Edinburgh Review* that occasioned the letter, to which the present singularly cool and sensible one forms an answer, is contained in the number of that work for April, 1807, (Vol. x. p. 154,) and is indeed a very severe one, though less so than that upon Mr. Pinkerton's Recollections of Paris. (See p. 347.) In the third volume of the same Review,

ers reached me at Hamilton, as I was setting out on a tour through the Highlands; and since that time I have been so much occupied with travelling and other avocations, that I have not had leisure to answer them. For this delay I beg you to accept my apology; and, without further preface, I shall now proceed to make such comments on your letter, as its contents seem to me to demand.

I must, in the first place, observe that, having re-perused the review of your Geography, which I guess to be the one of which you complain, I do not find it to be of such a nature as to justify, in any degree, the language you hold respecting it. The reviewer alleges that your book falls greatly short of its pretensions and of his expectations;

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the first edition of the *Modern Geography* had been noticed, and with a considerable share of commendation. It was admitted that the book was far from containing the defects to be found in former publications upon the subject; and that, while the previous writings of the author and the whole course of his reading and studies had qualified him for the necessary but inglorious drudgery of laborious compilation, no expense appeared to have been grudged, no pains or labor, however constant and tedious, to have been spared, in order to render the work a complete system of modern Geography. In the review of the second edition the tone was entirely changed; and, after seventeen pages full of blame, the article concluded by the caustic remark, that "something more than a journey to Paris and an unshaken faith in his own pretensions, is requisite to make Mr. Pinkerton worthy of half the praises he lavishes upon his book and its style. In truth it was long ago observed by a shrewd judge, that good sense is the source of good writing, and with that our author does not appear to be considerably imbued."

and he accuses you of having compiled it with unpardonable carelessness and inattention, as well as with a culpable disregard of the interests of the purchasers of the former edition of your book. Of the justice of these charges I wish to give no opinion; but I must observe, that the reviewer brings, or attempts to bring, evidence of their truth; and that, however severe his strictures are against your book, there is nothing in the tone or language of his criticism which indicates personal hostility towards you, or betrays any secret malignity or unfair prejudice in his mind.

But, in the second place, I cannot admit that the slight and casual intercourse which has subsisted betwixt us has been such as to disqualify me from being the reviewer of any book which you have published, or may hereafter choose to publish; or as may afford you any reasonable ground of complaint against me for being so. I have had twice, I think, the pleasure of meeting you at dinner; and I have had a good deal of correspondence with you, partly in answer to your inquiries about Spanish America, and partly on the subject of some charts of the Cape of Good Hope, which you were desirous to dispose of to the late government to the best advantage; and, in both cases, I did my utmost to serve you, though unsuccessfully. But I never conceived, nor can I now conceive, that so slight a connexion as this ought to prevent me from reviewing any of your books, or from saying of them, in decent and becoming language, what in my opinion ought to be said.

These general discussions, however, are unnecessary at present; for I have no hesitation to inform you that I am not the author of the review which appears to have given you so much uneasiness; nor have I ever reviewed any one of your books; nor did I ever see the review in question till it was published in the Edinburgh Review. But it is at the same time perfectly true, that having been disappointed in your book on Geography, from which, it seems, I had expected too much, I made no secret of my sentiments with regard to it; and, when I understood that the Edinburgh reviewers meant to review it, I furnished them with a long catalogue of errors in your translations from the Spanish, which I had noted down as I read your book. Of this catalogue I perceive they have made considerable use in their review; and it flatters me, I confess, to observe that, with regard to that part of the review in which alone I have any concern, you attempt not, in your letter, to vindicate yourself from these criticisms, but endeavor to throw the blame on your amanuensis. That your book has suffered from the faults of your amanuensis I am ready to believe, and I sincerely regret that your bad health should have compelled you to trust so much to so inadequate an assistant; but that the accuracy or sense of your translations should have been affected by his infirmities, is what I cannot understand. You must not accuse me of being deficient in candor, when I say that your vindication reminds me of the defence of a noted Highland chieftain against a charge of bad orthography.

"How can you spell so ill?" said a friend to the laird of ———. "Who could spell better with such a pen?" was the laird's reply.

I cannot conclude without expressing my regret that, before writing so angry a letter, you had not first inquired what share I had in the review of which you complained.

CAPT. STONE, OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY, TO MR. PINKERTON.

Malta, November 16th, 1807.

Having lately learnt that you had it in contemplation to publish an Atlas, worthy of your country and the present state of science and art; a work indeed that I have long wished for, but, despairing of England, had begun to look towards France for its execution; may I be allowed to make the following observations?

That an adherence to the size of D'Anville's maps, merely for a uniformity with his works (if interfering with fulness or correctness) be not attended to; but such larger size be used as will do most justice to the work.

That parts of coasts which have been specially surveyed be distinguished from those parts which have only been generally surveyed: this distinction I have already seen well made out in a chart of the Black Sea, published by the Academy of Petersburg, in which the former is designed by a dark shaded line, and the latter by a single narrow

line. This remark will also refer to mountains, rivers, &c.; but perhaps, if carried to its full extent, it would interfere with the beauty of the engraving; in which case, a pamphlet might be attached to the Atlas, describing what parts have been well and fully surveyed, and what have not: this would afford great assistance to officers of the navy and army, and to others who may have opportunities of making surveys, in directing their attention to such parts as have been as yet only negligently surveyed.

There are two other points I venture to mention—1stly, That of distinguishing bold rocky parts of coasts, from those which run down to the water in low shelving rocks, and also from sandy beaches: some conventional sign might well distinguish these, though I have never seen it attempted.

2ndly, A distinction between high, abrupt, rocky mountains, and those of merely regular slopes: this, I conceive, might be accomplished by engraving the one in lines and the other by shading, similar to our Indian ink wash. On no account should elevations, I think, be allowed, even in the designs of peaks or volcanoes; but rather, if dark shading is not sufficient to mark them, make use of a sign: the elevations of volcanoes in your small map of Chili, otherwise so neat, hurt the eye.

To make this Atlas more generally useful, by extending its assistance to military men, may I hope that military geography will not be neglected, but that the frontiers of states will be correctly defined, and that passes of mountains, fords of rivers, forts, batteries, &c. &c. be marked? Shall I re-

commend for these purposes the conventional signs published in the fifth number of the *Memorial Topography*, undoubtedly the best conventional signs hitherto invented, and therefore deserving of being brought into general use, which object their being introduced into your Atlas would no doubt assist? The signs for mineralogy might also be introduced for marking the situation of mines, and designating the component parts of ridges of mountains, &c.: thus the Atlas would not be merely geographical, but approach, as nearly as a convenient size would permit it, to topography; that is, be formed of that species of maps called chorographical.

As an apology for thus addressing a gentleman of whom I have no personal knowledge, and on points many of which probably are anticipated, I have only to plead a love for the science even from childhood, and an anxiety to see correctly and elegantly executed a work, which is of the greatest general utility, and not the least to those of my profession.

I have only to add, that, if I can be of any assistance to you, Sir, in your geographical pursuits, or otherwise, either in this island, or through my friends in any other part of the Mediterranean, I beg you will command me. I request to be put down as a subscriber for as early a copy of the Atlas, as this my application will warrant. Mr. Aspern of Cornhill, to whom I have written on the subject, will receive the numbers for me as they come out and pay for them.

THE MARCHIONESS OF STAFFORD TO MR. PINKERTON.

Cleveland House, Jan. 19th, 1808.

If it had not been for the wish respecting my etchings which you so obligingly expressed to Mr. Laing, I should not have thought them worthy of your attention. I am much flattered by what you say of them; and, if they afford you any entertainment, I owe it in return for that which I have received, both in reading your *History of Scotland* and several other books.

I shall have great pleasure in contributing any curious portraits I may find at Dunrobin, which may come into the class of those you are collecting. I fear there are but few of that description, though I remember formerly hearing of some very old ones, which I never could find out there, and conclude they must have fallen to pieces in some repair of the house many years ago. There is one of Buchanan, of which I shall send you a drawing; or I will bring the original to town for the purpose of being copied this summer, should you wish for a likeness of him. There is also an old Earl of Argyle; but, as I shall soon have an opportunity of seeing what may be worthy of your attention there, I shall delay answering that part of your letter for a few months.

I wish much to see such a translation of Torfæus* as you mention, and hope you may be in-

* There is no other mention, in Mr. Pinkerton's correspondence, of an intention on his part to translate any of the writings

duced to undertake it with additional notes and observations, which would make it a very valuable acquisition to all who have any curiosity on those subjects. We have at Trentham a portrait, which I believe is that of a young Earl of Mar, whose sister was married to Sir Campbell of Calder: it is by Cornelius Jansen, and used to be called the bonnie Earl of Moray;* but I take it to be Mar, from finding some of the same family at Calder, the father and sisters, I suppose, of this.

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of Torfæus, and it is impossible to say which of his works (for he was a voluminous author) is here alluded to; but probably, from the circumstance having been noticed to the Marchioness of Stafford, it was that entitled *Orcades, seu rerum Orcadensium Historia.* Torfæus, who was a native of Iceland, wrote principally on the History and Antiquities of Denmark.

* James Stewart, who, on his marriage with the eldest daughter of the Regent Moray, assumed the title of Earl of Moray, was generally denominated the *bonnie Earl,* and seems to have owed to this character the loss of his life. He was much in the good graces of Anne of Denmark, who, a few days before his murder, commended him, in the king's hearing, with too many epithets of a proper and gallant man. His hereditary enemy, the Earl of Huntley, on the 7th February, 1592, on pretence that Moray had been engaged with Bothwell, invested the house of Dunibirsal and set it on fire. Dunbar, sheriff of Moray, who was in the house at the time, said to the Earl of Moray, 'I will go out at the gate before your lordship, and you shall come out after me.' Dunbar accordingly came forth and ran desperately on Huntley's men, by whom he was presently slain. During this, the Earl of Moray came out, and retreated among the rocks on the sea-side; but unfortunately his knap-scull tippet, whereon was a silk string, had taken fire, which betrayed him to his enemies in the darkness of the night; and, himself not knowing the same, they came down to him on a sudden, and cruelly murdered him. A proclamation was

LORD SEAFORTH* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Clarges Street, Feb. 11th, 1808.

Lord Seaforth returns Mr. Pinkerton's queries:—he regrets that a particular hurry just now deprives him of leisure to give sufficient attention to digest and arrange any information on the subject Mr. Pinkerton is at present engaged on. Should Lord Seaforth have more time, he will try to recollect any circumstances that may be useful to Mr. Pinkerton, and, in the mean while, should any

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issued (18th March) that the young Earl of Moray should not pursue Huntley for the murther, in respect he was warded in Blackness and willing to abide a trial, saying he did nothing but by his Majesty's commission." *Douglas's Peerage of Scotland*, II. p. 258.

* Francis Humberston Mackenzie, descended from Kenneth, third Earl of Seaforth in Scotland, whose title was forfeited in 1715, was created a British peer, by the title of Lord Seaforth, Baron Mackenzie of Kintail, in the county of Ross, in 1797, and died in 1814, when the title became extinct. His lordship, who was a general in the army, had, at the time of writing this letter, just returned from the government of Barbadoes, where he had most actively and honorably signalized himself by his efforts for the amelioration of the condition of the negro part of the population. He was the first who procured an act from the legislature of that island, making it death to kill a slave, which, before his time, was only punishable by a fine of 15*l.* currency. He was a man of a singularly active and comprehensive mind, and very much attached to the pursuit of all branches in Natural History, but especially Botany, in which he was very well skilled.

further queries occur, Mr. Pinkerton is very welcome to send them to Lord Seaforth.

Query I.—In what part of the isle of Lewis is Classernesh, where there is a remarkable monument like that of Stonehenge? It does not appear in any map that I have seen.

Answ.—This place is not properly *Classernesh*, but *Calernish*. There is no good map of Lewis: one is making by Mr. Chapman, at an expense of nearly 3,000*l*. There is a very good plan of the stones in Martin's *Hebrides*. There is in the same neighborhood, (at Down Carloway,) one of those remains of antiquity, called in that country "Picts' Houses," very perfect: both are in the parish of Carloway, which is now annexed to the parish of Lorks.

Q. II.—From Mr. Headrick's pamphlet, it appears that the island of Lewis is chiefly granite.—Of what color and grain is the granite in general?

A.—The granite of Lewis is not of vast variety of color and grain: chiefly black and red in color, and of fine grain: in many places mixed with much mica and with quartz, feldspar, &c. in abundance, and in some places much shorl: many dikes intersect it; and there is abundance of bog ore of iron in the mosses.

Q. III.—Are the isles of the North and South Uist and Barra granitic or calcareous?

A.—I am not acquainted with these islands; but, from what I hear, they are chiefly similar to Lewis and Harris. In North Uist there is a large tract of sea-sand, so totally devoid of any thing calcareous, that it is thought highly valuable to the glasseries.

Q. IV.—Dr. Walker says that the little isle of Bernera consists wholly of amianthus, which, if true, would be a singular fact in natural history.

A.—I had before heard this saying of Dr. Walker's with astonishment. I believe it quite gratuitous, or should rather think that the doctor has confounded my Bernera with some other. I never saw amianthus in any quantity in any part of Lewis: perhaps the doctor got his information at second hand, and his informant has mistaken shorl (of which there are very fine specimens) in a state of semi-decomposition for amianthus.

Q. V.—What is the complexion of Lord Reay's country, or the north-west of Scotland in general—granitic, or calcareous? No mineralogist seems to have visited that portion.

A.—I never was in the interior of Lord Reay's country: its appearance is very like Lady Stafford's country, chiefly granitic and porphyritic, with, however, large patches of calcareous hills. Both produce marble; and, near the sea, at the mouths of some of the mountain streams, I have picked up very pretty specimens of porphyry and jasper. N.B. Lewis produces (in the parish of Hig) that rare mineral, molybdena.

From a Report on the Island of Lewis, and Estates of Kintail and Lockalsh, by the Rev. Mr. Headrick, contained in letters to the Right Hon. Lord Seaforth, the proprietor.

My Lord,—Various circumstances have occasioned my staying here much longer than I had intended; but, having traversed the greatest part

of this country, I beg leave to lay before your lordship the observations that have occurred to me, and the means by which I think its value may be greatly increased.

Upon the mineralogy of Lewis, it will be unnecessary to take up much of your lordship's time; as, from the short hints contained in your lordship's letter, it appears you have already formed a very correct idea of that.

A vast body of breccia, or coarse plum-pudding stone, runs from the west of Arnish to beyond Grace. The stones of which it is composed have evidently been worn and rounded in the bottom of the sea. The harder species of this stone have been cemented by silex and iron, which seem to have undergone a partial vitrification. In other parts, the cement is an indurated clay which dissolves by the weather. In the peninsula about Aignish, and on the opposite shore near Back, the cement is a red calcareous clay, or clay-marl, which slightly effervesces with an acid. Hence I infer, that this rock has at one time occupied the whole of Broad Bay, and that the land has at one time been much more extensive than it is now.

Through this body of plum-pudding stone run various veins of spar of lime, though I saw none of such magnitude as to afford being worked, with a view to burn into lime. There are also various veins of whin-stone, running nearly from south to north. The most remarkable of these is one to the east of Grace, and which also appears on the opposite shore near Garrabost. It is composed of

large cubical stones, arranged in the form of a regularly built wall. There is another remarkable dike of this sort at Stornoway, on part of which the old castle stands. There it assumes the shape of rude columnar basalt.

To the east of Grace, where this plum-pudding rock joins to granite, I found a body of lime-stone interposed betwixt them; though at that part inaccessible, and very irregular in its quality. Also, below Garrabost, where the plum-pudding rock is cut off on that side, I found a vein of spar of lime, which seemed worthy of being followed out, were there not many other resources for procuring lime at much less expense. To these veins of lime-stone, I impute the stalactites, and stalagmitic incrustations, which are found in the seal-cave of Grace, and in many other caverns which the sea has formed along these coasts. An excess of the carbonic acid dissolves lime-stone in water; and, when this water gets to a cavern where it is exposed to slow evaporation, the excess of carbonic acid which occasioned the solution flies off, leaving crystallised carbonate of lime in the form of icicles, or of a crust, upon the rocks.

All the head of the bay, south-east from Aignish, the plum-pudding stone exhibits a smaller grain, like red free-stone, and is arranged in regular strata. Some of the strata might be used for building, though some of them are cemented by calcareous clay, and would crumble down by exposure to the weather. All the plum-pudding rocks are stratified; though most of the strata are of great thick-

ness, and many of them irregular. They are intersected by cracks, which run either from east to west, or from north to south.

The plum-pudding rock is cut off towards Chicken Point and at Garrabost, by a very shattery species of lava, which includes veins of iron-stone, and, in some places, of terras, or puzzolana earth. The same appears at Tolsta Point, and in some places on the west side of Ness:—a proof that all this extent, which is now so much cut and mangled by the sea, must at one time have formed a solid body of land, extending, perhaps, far beyond the extreme points or limits of it which now remain.

All the other rocks I have seen in Lewis are granites of various species and qualities. Near Stornoway they are extremely shattery and full of cracks. Towards Birken Isles Loch, or Loch Erisort, they become micaceous; towards Loch Dungean, and in various parts of Loch Seaforth, they are arranged in thick strata, which might afford good stones for building. These rocks include many beautiful silicious crystals and nodules of chalcedony. I have selected a few specimens, with a view to try the effect of polishing them.

All these rocks are intersected by veins or dikes of whin-stone, which run nearly from south to north, including a few points towards north-west and south-east. Some of these veins are decomposed by the weather: others are composed of stones, built in the form of a regular wall, like that at Grace, and a few affect a columnar form. Many of these veins, especially in the district of Uig, are

filled with talkite, a very hard porous species of stone, of which they make mill-stones. In such cases, the interstices are filled with a soft species of talk, in small laminæ, called here *sheep's silver*.

In the mountains of Uig are many veins of this talky matter, and also in other places; for they all run across the country in the direction already specified. I have long thought of converting this substance to use, and have made many experiments upon it; though I must confess I have not yet had leisure to bring my experiments to a satisfactory conclusion.

With the whin-stone veins or dikes already mentioned, which intersect the rocks, are connected veins of spar of lime. Many of these also include veins of iron-stone, or are of iron.

The most curious veins of that sort are at Kibboch Head and westward. There I found the most beautiful, regularly formed, and semi-transparent rhomboidal crystals of lime, both arranged in veins, and also in detached nodules, in the hollows of the rocks. In similar hollows I saw also nodules of chalcedony, which on one side adhered firmly to the rock, and even included loose chips of stone. On the other side they appeared blistery, like some metals which shrink after fusion.

Here also I saw a vast vein composed of rounded stones, which are cemented by means of spar of lime, regularly crystallised. From a distant sea-inspection, I was led to expect a vein of metallic ore there, and this led me to make an effort to examine the place with attention; but the boatmen who conveyed me grew tired of me, and left

me to find my way over the rocks. I was thus obliged to content myself with a cursory view; and the only metallic vein I discovered was an immense dike, faced with regularly built whin-stone, including subordinate veins of iron-stone and ore.

Besides the whin-stone and talky veins which intersect the granite, there are innumerable veins of silicious spar, running in all directions. There are also veins of soft micaceous schistus, chiefly towards Loch Seaforth, which seem to indicate that veins of slate are not remote.

I took some specimens of a vein of this sort from near the eastern mouth of Loch Fily, with a view to try whether it might not be manufactured into stone-ware, of a new and curious quality. But all the pulverisation we could give it, did not make its particles adhere with water. Perhaps a more perfect pulverisation, or mixture with other clays, may produce the intended effect; and I reserve a small piece to be tried in some pottery near Edinburgh.

The Schant Isles

are certainly the greatest curiosities my eyes ever contemplated; and, were they known, men fond of viewing all that is grand and uncommon in the productions of nature would come from the remotest corners of the world to see them.

They consist of two ranges or strata of basaltes placed above each other, with lime-stone, schistus, and a stratum that seems to be sulphur, or hepar of lime, interposed between them. This last stratum has always been taken for common lime-stone by the people, which it very much resembles;

but it does not effervesce with acid, and it contains thin veins of beautifully crystallised gypsum, formed within its cracks and cavities. Hence it would not burn into lime; though perhaps it might make gypsum, at least after the sulphur is oxygenated by exposure to the air.

The lime-stone is of three colors, blue, whitish-gray, and sparry. Much of it is contaminated by martial pyrites, beautifully crystallised, and many of them indented into each other in a curious manner. This circumstance, and the convulsed state of these strata, would render much attention necessary in selecting lime-stone there fit for burning. The lime-stone and several of the rocks contiguous to it contain various species of sea-shells, petrified, and of the most perfect form. The lime-stone and other strata appear at various points along the north side of Garve Island. They appear also in the neck which joins a remarkable black rock with that island, where there is a commodious bay with good anchorage.

This black rock is a ledge of basaltes, less perfectly formed than the mass which rests upon it. It is the basis or inferior stratum on which the columns of the Garve Island rest. It dips rapidly to the south-west, and rises to the north-east. This rock has a remarkable natural arch under it, which is the common passage for boats.

Passing over to the Green Island, which projects a ledge of rock covered by the tide to meet the black rock, we find it wholly composed of the same sort of basalt with the latter. It every-

where affects a columnar appearance, though the columns are rude and ill formed.

On its north-west corner are seen all the strata of schistus and lime-stone, which run below the columns of Garve Island. On the south-west side the lime-stone projects like a vein; and there is here a vast mass of excellent clay marl formed from its decomposition. Above this place a vast body of schistus is exposed to view. It resembles that which accompanies coal, only more indurated; and, like coal schistus, it contains many strata of iron-stone.

This schistus is immediately under the soil of a part of the Green Island. There, were it wrought down below moisture, it might yield excellent flags for paving store-houses for salt and fish.

The basaltic columns of Garve Island, though amazingly high, are not completely detached, with smooth surfaces and regular joints, as takes place in basaltic columns of the most perfect kind. They have all a slight inclination towards the south-west, and are intersected by various cracks or planes running mostly at an angle of 45° with the columns. A tail of rocks projects towards the south-west from Garve, which exhibits many whimsical varieties of basaltes. In one rock they are waved, rising at an angle of about 45°, but are suddenly bent into a perpendicular ascent, without any visible rupture of their continuity. In another rock, they are thrown almost into a horizontal position, with the ends of the columns sticking out towards the north, as if the rock had been

overturned by more than gigantic force. Two columnar rocks project boldly from the sea, resembling two massy square towers, which defy the fury of its waves.

On the north-east corner of Donald Bane's Island, or Y-kill, which is joined to Garve by a narrow neck, there are several clusters of basaltic columns of the most perfect kind. They stand perpendicular; are perfectly smooth and extremely hard; are mostly five-sided, with their angles cut off, and are as perfect as if formed by the most skilful mason. They are regularly joined at the same horizontal elevation. Some ranges do not exceed eight or ten inches in height from point to point: the rest are from three to four feet. The points are most curiously formed. Every lower piece has a smooth cavity on the upper end, which is exactly filled by the convexity of the piece which rests upon it. The basaltic rocks contain many nodules of zeolite, and various silicious crystals.

The soil of these islands, where it is not naturally wet, is excellent, and produces every species of sweet grasses without culture. The only exception to this remark is a part of the Green Island, where the soil rests upon the schistus already described. The soil formed from the decomposition of basalt is universally good.

The islands are better adapted for sheep and a few goats than for cows, which cannot be kept from falling over the rocks; an accident that happened whilst I was there. I should think the fine-woolled Cheviot breed would thrive well on

them. I mentioned this to the tacksman; but he said that sheep were too apt to get fat there, and then they became lazy and fell over the rocks like cows. But this objection is easily obviated by stocking more fully, which would prevent them from getting more fat than is necessary. Cows cannot get at half the grass.

I am also apt to think that these isles might form a commodious fishing station. The seas around swarm with fishes of various sorts; and there is a commodious landing-place for boats between Garve and Y-kill.

The broken columns of basaltes might furnish excellent stones for building, and are well adapted for building breast-works and quays for shipping, were such works to be established in the West Highlands.

But I beg your lordship's pardon for dilating so much upon this subject. Having dropped into it by accident, I run on without adverting that your lordship is much better acquainted with the structure of these rocks than myself.

The soil of Lewis is mostly moss upon rock. The moss is generally of a firm dense quality, highly susceptible of improvement, and yields black peat hardly inferior to the common Scotch coals. The only exception to this remark is a stripe of land from the peninsula of Aignish to Garrabost, and some patches near Bible, where the sub-soil is of a marly quality, which resists the growth of moss above it, except where the surface is naturally wet. There is also a considerable extent of soil in the west of Ness that falls under

this description, where much of it has been injured by paring off turf. Most of the soil here is well adapted for turnips and green crops of every species, and possesses all the means of improvement within itself.

In all other places where I found soil of a good quality, or which carried sweet grasses without culture, the soil had evidently been formed by small particles of shells blown up from the sea upon the moss. This was evident from inspecting these soils with a glass, when many particles of shells were discovered; and they effervesced with an acid. The only misfortune is, that in many cases too great a quantity of these shells has been blown up upon the land, and has rendered it sterile from excess, while a moderate proportion would have proved highly beneficial.

Calcareous Substances.

It does not appear to me that the people of this country have any occasion for lime, except for building and plastering houses.

DR. WILCOCKE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Reigate, October 5th, 1808.

I am favored with your letter of the 28th ult., and have in consequence prepared an abstract of the titles of the Voyages in the Dutch collection I mentioned to you; and I also send a short memorandum of a few marginal additions and correc-

tions to Stavorinus's Voyages, which perhaps may be useful to you. Mr. Henry Berry, of No. 40 or 41 Barnard Street, Brunswick Square, has got a few books of mine, amongst which is A. Huyser's description of the Dutch establishments. In the appendix to this, is an account given by Stephanow, one of the companions of Benyowsky, of that adventurer's voyage from Kamschatka to China: it varies considerably from Benyowsky's own narrative. Stephanow died at Batavia, where the account was taken down by Huyser himself. If you think a translation of this can be of any use to you, Mr. Berry will, I dare say, let you have the book for that purpose.

Occupation, as well as a sprained foot, has hitherto prevented me from inquiring at the pits where fullers' earth is dug, for the crystals you mention. I shall make it, however, one of my earliest excursions: the nearest pit of the kind is at Redstone about two miles from Reigate.

I transmit you, according to your desire, an abstract of Bucquoy's Voyage, which was printed at Haarlem in 1745, in a quarto volume, entitled *Aanmerkelike Ontmoedingen in de Sestienjaerige Reyse naer de Indien.* I have translated that part which relates to the Eastern coast of Africa entire: the rest I have curtailed, as you will perceive.

Thoman's Voyage I have not been able to meet with, and shall be obliged to you if you can point out to me where it is to be got. Any other translations you may wish for I shall be happy to make; and, as I know no printed list of Dutch voyages, I annex one which may be convenient to you:—

Collection of Dutch Voyages.

First Voyage of the Dutch to the East Indies, by Houtman.—(This is to be found in Harris' and Astley's collections.)

Second Voyage, by Van Neck and Van Warwyck.—(Also to be found in English collections.)

Voyage of De Weert to the Straits of Magellan, containing the discovery of Sebald de Weert's three islands.—(An abstract only of this voyage has, I believe, appeared in English.)

Oliver Van Noort's Voyage round the world; P. Both and P. Van Caerden's Voyage to the East Indies; Second Voyage of Van Neck to do.; Steven Van der Hagen's Voyage to do.—(These are in English collections.)

Voyage of two Dutch ships to Achin, 1600.—(Not translated that I know of, nor is it particularly interesting: the ships, though bound to Achin, did not go thither, but to another part of Sumatra.)

Heemskerk's Voyage to the East Indies, 1601; Harmenssen's do., do.; Van Veen's do., do.; Van Spilbergen's do., do.; Van Warwyck's do., do.; Steven Van der Hagen's second do., do.; Matclief's do. do., 1605—1608; P. Van der Caarden's second do. do., 1606.—(In Harris's collection, or abstracted in some other collection.)

Verhoeven's Voyage, 1607.—(The substance of this voyage is incorporated in Valentyn's work: it contains a great deal of interesting matter relative to the Dutch settlements and the Spice Islands, from 1607 to 1627.)

P. Van den Broeck's Voyage to the Coast of

Africa contains various particulars relative to Loango, Angola, and the great river Congo, which are not to be found elsewhere that I know of.

P. Van den Broeck's Voyage to the East Indies, and his transactions there for seventeen years — (He founded Batavia, or rather gave that name to the fort that had been previously built at Jaccatra.)

J. Van Spilbergen's Voyage to the Moluccas, through the Straits of Magellan in 1614.

Le Maire and Schouten's Voyage.—(Well known.)

Bontekoe's Voyage, in 1618.—(A very extraordinary voyage; so much so, that it has almost the reputation of Fernand Mendez Pinto (whose travels by the by I have, and think them authentic, at least in what he relates as being an eye-witness, notwithstanding Congreve's "Fernand Mendez Pinto was but a type of thee, thou liar of the first magnitude."—*Double-dealer*). I recollect seeing an abstract or translation of this voyage in some collection of voyages.

Jacob l'Hermite's Voyage round the World, 1623.—(To be met with in English collections.)

Hagenaar's Voyage to the East Indies, 1631—38.—(It contains a description of Japan.)

Abel Farman's Voyage.—(Well known.)

Schouten's Voyages to and in the East Indies, from 1658 to 1665.—(Visits and describes Batavia, Japan, Ternate, Amboyna, Macassar, Aracan, Formosa, the coast of Malabar, Bengal, &c.—(It is abstracted, I believe, in English collections.)

Nieuhoff's Voyages to and in the East Indies, from 1653 to 1671.—(In Harris's collection.)

De Graaf's Travels along the Ganges, from 1668 to 1671.

Shipwreck on the Island Quelpart, by H. Hamel, 1653.

P. de Goyer and J. Keizer's Embassy to China, 1655—57.

Embassy to the Viceroy of Fo-keen, 1662—64: relative to Formosa, and the celebrated Chinese pirate Coxinga.

Embassy of Peter Van Hoorn to Pekin, 1664—5.

Account of a remarkable Shipwreck and Adventures, by F. J. Van der Heyden, in 1661, 62, and 63, in the Bay of Bengal: great sufferings.—(Not translated that I know of.)

Some Remarkable Particulars respecting Banda.

Voyage and Adventures of De Roy, from Batavia to Borneo and Sumatra, in 1691 and seq.—(Remarkably interesting: showing the effects of perseverance and courage in the midst of calamity.—(Not translated.)

Valentyn's First Voyage to the East Indies, in 1685—1695; and his Second Voyage, 1705 to 1714. —(Detailed in his own work.)

Ab. Bogaert's Voyages to and in the East Indies, in 1701: (Bengal, Ceylon, the Moluccas.)

Shipwreck of the Arion, on her voyage from Japan to Batavia, 1714, on a shoal near the shore of Cochin China.

Voyage of the Barneveld to Madagascar, 1719.

Jacob Bucquoy's sixteen years' Travels in the East Indies, 1719 to 1735: he visits De la Goa Bay, Madagascar, Mosambique, Goa, Cananore, Batavia, &c.

Roggeveen's Voyage round the World: discovery of Easter Island.—(Well known.)

Shipwreck of the Blydorp on the coast of Morocco, 1733.

Capture of the Rustenwerk by a Macassar pirate, 1752.

Adventures of a Boat's Crew left on the coast of Africa, and their Travels to the Cape of Good Hope, 1754.

Mutiny on board the Nyenburg, 1763.

MR. KIRWAN TO MR. PINKERTON.

Dublin, May 9th, 1809.

Your kindness, in recollecting the French minerals destined for me, deserves my highest gratitude: if not inconvenient to you, I would wish them to be left with my booksellers, Messrs. Payne and Mackinley, in the Strand, who will find an opportunity of sending them to me by hand.

As to granite, it has been observed by the most accurate mineralogists of Germany and Sweden, to have been the fundamental basis of almost all the highest mountains of Sweden, Germany, Russia, and Switzerland. Mr. Ferber travelled into all those countries, and has proved the truth of this assertion: his writings are numerous; but you may consult some of the Memoirs of Berlin, I believe from 1778 to 1788, for an account of his observations, and also three letters of his from

Switzerland, written in the German language. I believe the general proof to be this, that all other rocks have been found super-imposed in one mountain or other on granite, but that large masses of granite were never found intercepted betwixt rocks of another genus. I do not remember any exceptions, except in volcanic mountains; and even in these, at least in Vesuvius, Ferber and others suspect granite to exist. Nor do I find the general tenet to have ever been opposed by any but Moro and the late Dr. Hutton, on grounds merely hypothetic, and inconclusive reasoning. As to myself, I have not attended to these objects these some years past, and can at present recollect but little more than I have set down in my Elements of Geology; but you may consult with great advantage Mr. Jameson's Oryctogeognosy.

MESSRS. CADELL AND DAVIES TO MESSRS. LONGMAN AND CO.

March 2nd, 1810.

We return herewith Mr. Pinkerton's letter, which you forwarded to us five or six days since; and should have done this sooner, but that we wished at the same time to say something respecting it; and we have been of late very much occupied by other objects, certainly as important to us as the "Great Atlas;" and, we may add, without meaning disrespect to Mr. Pinkerton,

quite as pleasant as listening to his reiterated complaints about grievances wholly imaginary.

"The draftsman and engraver," he says, "are not sufficiently under his control;" whilst they have each assured us, that, whenever he was in the humor to receive them, they were ready and anxious to attend him. He wishes too that the payments to be made to them from time to time should pass through his hands; but this would evidently be highly improper.

"The engraving is miserably executed;" and yet he knows that not one of the maps has been considered as finished, till he gave it his full and unqualified approbation, and expressly sanctioned its delivery to the printer: indeed, till within the last few weeks, he never found the smallest fault with the engraving. It is doubtless Mr. Pinkerton's province to watch over the accuracy of the engraving; but the style and manner of it he may safely confide to the attention of the proprietors, who are sufficiently able to judge whether or not it be executed properly.

"The terms of his own engagement are inadequate." What a noble remuneration would 2000*l.* have been thought by any of the truly respectable persons with whom we might have connected ourselves in such an undertaking! persons certainly as competent as Mr. Pinkerton, whose names would have, at least, equally recommended it to the public; and who, by giving it their undivided attention, would have enabled us to bring forward the numbers with due regularity; whilst, by treating every person connected with the work with the

civility and kindness to which he is entitled, each department of it would have been rendered pleasant, instead of irksome.

"Enormous sums are paid to both Heber and Neele:" it is very true that their charges, though Mr. Pinkerton knows little about them, are materially higher than the original estimate, and that the difference falls heavily upon you and upon us; but Mr. Pinkerton must be aware that much of the draftsman's extra charge is owing to his being obliged to read carefully large volumes of Travels, &c. that are put into his hands; a duty that unquestionably belongs to Mr. Pinkerton's own department.

"Mr. Davies seems unaccountably averse to Lowry, and attached to Neele:"—this, however, is not the case. Mr. Davies, like each of the other proprietors, is anxious to see the work properly executed in all its parts, but has no predilections in favor of this or that engraver: he entertains as high an opinion of Mr. Lowry as Mr. Pinkerton or any one else can do; but he knows that Mr. Lowry has always more work upon his hands than he can execute. Was this not the case, we are persuaded he would scorn to accept any part of a work taken out of the hands of another, who, as far as he had gone, had given entire satisfaction to his employers: nay, even if he did accept it, he could but resort to the identical assistants who are at this moment employed upon the work.

Mr. Pinkerton pays us the compliment of expressing a wish that you would take this "magnificent work" under your immediate care. We

have not the smallest objection to resign to you the pleasure of all future communication with him respecting it; which, as you have to see or hear from him occasionally, concerning our other "magnificent work and profitable speculation," the *Voyages and Travels*, will not give you much additional trouble: but the business must, in all other respects, remain as it is. We intreat you, however, to try to prevail upon him not to detain the drawings or proofs of engravings, hereafter, longer than is necessary.

It was originally agreed that Mr. Pinkerton should receive 1000*l.* during the progress of the work, and another 1000*l.* upon its completion; but he now wishes that only 500*l.* may depend upon the completion, and that 1,500*l.* be paid him as the work proceeds: that is to say, 100*l.* for every four drawings completely finished. To this alteration we told him we had no objection, provided you had none; and, if it be so arranged, the matter will stand thus:—There are at present, we find, not more than eighteen drawings quite finished, and Mr. Pinkerton has been paid 500*l.*, so that, when six more are completed, he will become entitled to another 100*l.*, and subsequently to 100*l.* whenever four more drawings are finished, till the whole is done. We do not recollect any thing further to be noticed at present: you are heartily welcome to forward this to Mr. Pinkerton, who, after the strange letters he has lately written to us all, ought not to take offence at any thing we have said.

THE MARCHIONESS OF STAFFORD TO MR. PINKERTON.

Cleveland House, March 30th, 1810.

I am sorry to say that my search for old portraits at Dunrobin was without farther success than finding one of an Earl of Sutherland born in 1609, which is now engraving for the old history of the family of Sutherland by Sir Robert Gordon,* now publishing by Constable, and of which I shall take the liberty to send you a copy when it is finished.

I beg to express my thanks to you for the offer of the Gordon collection of drawings, &c. &c. Though I do not particularly collect drawings of that kind, yet the moderate sum you mention, of one hundred guineas, induces me to avail myself of this, provided you continue disposed to part with it; and I shall be glad if you will have the goodness to direct Mr. Christie to let it be sent here; as I shall be glad to look at it, and will willingly give that money.

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* *Genealogical History of the Earldom of Sutherland, from its origin to the year* 1630, *with a continuation to the year* 1651. *Published from the original manuscripts, and illustrated by engravings.*—London, 1813, folio.

MR. PINKERTON TO MR. J. B. NICHOLS.

Hampstead, March 31st, 1810.

I have no correspondence with * * *: but I let him know, months ago, that he certainly owed your father for * * *. Mr. Barlow, the engraver, can confirm it from the number of maps sent. Your father can certainly see himself righted.

It is odd enough that just about the time I was thus attending to your father's interest, there was, as I am told, a scurrilous libel printed in your Magazine. Its malignity is the more strange, as it proceeds on a mere omission of three words by one Griffith, who then carelessly printed the Monthly Magazine. I wonder your father's personal knowledge of me did not prevent this. I am sure such a thing against him should not appear in any journal under my management. I hope that in his own vindication he will give up the author.

This is the more unjust, as I sent, for many years, several curious articles (particularly twelve letters on English history) for which I was never paid one farthing; whilst I have eight guineas per sheet for all I send to other magazines. As your father admits libels against me, I hope he will show his impartiality by paying me for my labors in that very work which now abuses me.

MR. PINKERTON TO MESSRS. LONGMAN & CO.

London, April 5th, 1810.

You are already in some measure apprised of the existing differences between Mr. Davies and myself on the subject of the Atlas. As all my conversations pending the negotiation for that publication were with him alone, it is impossible you can be otherwise acquainted with the facts than through his representation; and I am led to believe that you, as joint proprietors of the work, are not correctly informed thereon; because, from your general character and reputation, I had a right to expect greater candor and liberality than I have experienced on this occasion. This consideration has induced me to make the present appeal to you, before I resort to such ulterior redress, as justice to myself, in my mind, demands.

Inheriting from my father what was at that time a sufficient income for a man of very moderate wishes and pleasures, I published many books on antiquarian subjects, from mere love of the science; and which, far from yielding any emolument, intrenched on my little revenue. The occupations of literature do not furnish the best qualifications for conducting the pecuniary transactions of life, as I have been taught by experience; but, in dealing with you as men of honor, I expected to be met on the broad basis of a mutual good understanding. As, however, a difference of opinion has unfortunately arisen, I hoped at least to be

judged by the fair construction to be drawn from facts, and was willing to submit that construction to the judgment of mutual and impartial friends; but even this satisfaction has been hitherto denied me.

The fair fame and reputation which I flattered myself had been the result of my labors, induced me to project and to propose to Mr. Davies the Atlas, of which he easily foresaw the advantages; and I prepared the calculations in schedule A, to which no objections were made, except when I proposed an annuity of 600*l.*

After several conversations, my allowance of 100*l.* for each map being considered as a fixed part of the expense, an advertisement was sent to Mr. Davies for his approbation; and he returned it after a fortnight with some remarks, in order that it might appear in the new edition of my Geography, where it may be found after the contents of the first volume. This edition appeared in February, 1807; and the advertisement bears that "the Atlas was preparing for publication, and that first impressions might be secured by the transmission of names to the publishers," the respectable house of Messrs. Longman and Co. being now first added. I regarded this matter as finally arranged, and took a large house with windows of a northern aspect, solely for the accommodation of draftsmen and engravers who might occasionally be employed under my own eye. The collection of Voyages and Travels could have no connexion with this transaction, as the translators were occupied in their own houses. The rent and taxes

of this house amounted to nearly 100*l.*; and I could never have thought of incurring this expense if I had not considered the original calculations as settled. It would in fact be absolutely impossible to conduct a work which requires roomy premises, on a pittance of less than 250*l.* a year, which it has yielded.

At length, after an unexpected delay of more than six months, Mr. Davies appeared in great haste; and, after half an hour's hurried conversation, surprised me into an agreement for 2000*l.*, instead of 6000*l.*, the sum always demanded, and the real groundwork of all our conversations for a year and a half. Instead of a sketch to be considered at leisure, or to be submitted to a professional adviser, as usual in fair and equitable transactions of such a magnitude, Mr. Davies, originally bred to the law, thus obtained my signature to a memorandum of which he was to send a duplicate in two days; but, even after two years and two months, a paper purporting to be a copy has been only obtained by me, and I am told it is an agreement by which I am finally bound. To my additional surprise, Mr. Davies, instead of employing Mr. Lowry, a capital artist and a man of science, as was always proposed by me, chose an obscure engraver called Neele, seemingly, as would appear by the result, that he might be totally under the control of Mr. Davies himself, who above all things desired concealment in a work, which, even by the pretended agreement, was to be under my sole direction!

This proceeding was not only highly disingenuous, and the memorandum itself obtained by sur-

prise, but it was at the same time founded on erroneous allegations:

I. Because it proceeded under the pretence that the work was to be on a reduced scale, and of course all the profits reduced: whereas it is on the same scale as when 6000*l.* was assigned me. The engraver has in some instances raised his charge from 50*l.* to 120*l.* per map; and my profits alone are on a reduced scale.

II. The second pretence was, that by employing a great number of engravers, so as to publish three maps every month, the work would be completed in two years: whereas only two numbers have appeared in two years; and instead of 2000*l.* I have received 500*l.* only.

There is besides a gross violation of the contract on his side, and which was highly injurious to the work, as well as to my income, namely, a delay of seven months after the publication of the first number, as Mr. Davies had not made a proper preparation of paper. By such delays I may die before the work is finished, and not receive half of my small retribution.

The memorandum also specifies that the work was to be under my sole direction, otherwise I would on no account have risked my literary character in it; whereas Mr. Davies has repeatedly interfered in the direction, by changing the maps ordered to be published, and in other respects. By Mr. Davies' assuming the direction, one map has been published without my consent, as specified in my written directions to the engraver, (schedule B,) to the injury of my reputation.

Such, gentlemen, are the grounds on which I found my present remonstrance and complaints. I doubt not redress would be afforded me in a Court of Equity; but to litigation and strife I am very averse, both from habit and inclination; and I prefer this appeal in the first instance to your integrity and good faith. It is manifest that such a contest would be injurious to both parties; and that by concord and cordial co-operation, the property as well as the reputation of the work will be greatly increased, and thus we shall both be gainers. But as the matter now stands, I never can nor will rest contented. Should I be driven in vindication of my own rights and character to appeal to that public which has patronised my works, you have before you some of the grounds of that appeal, and may in some measure appreciate the consequences upon the work in question. I hope I shall be spared this painful necessity, and that an amicable arrangement will give activity to the undertaking. Mr. Lowry lately informed me that he is still willing to assume the direction of the engravings; and he is acquainted with my motives for taking the house in Queen Ann Street.

GENERAL SIR RUFANE DONKIN TO MR. PINKERTON.

Messina, April 26th, 1811.

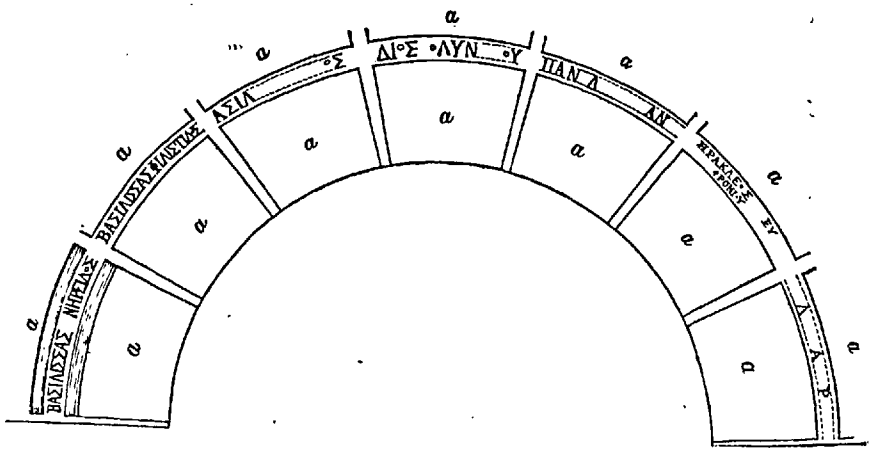
On reading your *Essay on Medals,* I perceive, by a note in the first volume, that you are rather dis-

posed to consider a certain Queen Philistis as a Sicilian, in consequence of her name being found engraved on the Greek theatre at Syracuse.* I hope you will excuse this intrusion of a stranger, who from being on the spot (and on no other account whatever) may perhaps have the means of giving you some information concerning that inscription; and, if my conjectures are well founded, you will agree with me in thinking that the opinion of that lady's being a Sicilian gains no strength from her name's being inscribed on the *præcinctio* of a theatre at Syracuse; for certainly the names of other personages there to be found also, are not the names of Sicilians. I need only take "*Διος Ολυμπιου.*" Neither can I admit that Queen Philistis, or the Olympian Jove, or Hercules Euphro-

* A view of the ruins of this theatre will be found in *Wilkins' Antiquities of Magna Græcia*, (Chap. II. plate 7.) Mr. Pinkerton's passage on this subject (I. p. 93.) is as follows:—"Hesychius takes notice of the Φιλιστιδιον νομισμα, or coin of Philistis, but without telling us where that queen reigned, which is unfortunate; for, though many of these coins have reached us, which prove that her reign must have been long and over an opulent realm, yet it is not determined by medallists which country ought to be assigned to her. Many are for Sicily: Begerus inclines rather to Cossara or Malta, an opinion much more improbable." In a note he adds, "this seems confirmed by the inscription with her name on the *gradini* of the theatre at Syracuse; but this appears not older than the Roman times." Mr. Wilkins, who describes as well as figures the theatre, seems to entertain no doubt of Philistis having reigned in Sicily. His words are: "Ancient authors are silent on the history of this queen, who is supposed by some later writers to have been the daughter of Theron, tyrant of Agrigentum; and by others, to have been the daughter of Philistus, and wife of Dionysius the Younger."

nius, had any hand in *building* that theatre: still less can I admit that the two last named personages had boxes in it, as has been supposed by some of Philistis.

Till very lately the inscription "*ΒΑΣΙΛΙΣΣΑΣ ΦΙΛΙΣΤΙΔΟΣ*" was the only one legible; but successive diggings have discovered the other inscriptions shown in the annexed diagram, in which you will observe that a name regularly intervened between the upper and lower tiers of each set of *gradini* belonging to the different *cunei* above and below the *præcinctio*, marked in the plan by the letter *a*, and separated, as usual, by the *vomitoria*. These names, if I am right in my conjecture, would signify in our common parlance the *upper and lower Philistis, the upper and lower Hercules*, &c. The inscription in honor of Jupiter is likely soon to be obliterated, there having lately been erected upon the *cuneus* dedicated to the god, a mill, whose gushing waters, brought by an ancient aqueduct, pour immediately over his name.



My reasoning then on these inscriptions, after repeatedly visiting the theatre, is this. We know that the ancients gave names to their several apartments. Lucullus's Apollo is well known. The emperor Claudius "in Diætam cui nomen *Hermæum* receperat." Our modern inns have "the Rose, the Lion," &c.; and this prevails all over Europe. Our theatres are divided into "King's side" and "Prince's side; and the theatre in this very town is now divided into the "side of the Mountain" and "the side of the Sea." Thus then I conceive it probable that the ancient theatres were divided by name, not into sides or boxes, but into *cunei;* and, on referring to the enclosed outline, you will observe that not only each *cuneus* bears a name, but also that, as far as we can read them, the female names are on the right, and the male names on the left hand, the Olympian Jupiter being in the centre.

Thus, a young Syracusan wishing to make an appointment with his mistress, had only to settle it with her that he would sit in the cuneus of "*Ἡρακλῆς Εὐφρονιος*," while she should place herself opposite to him in that of "*Βασιλισσα Φιλιστις*," so that they might meet after the play.

I have now only to add, that if I can be of any use to you in ascertaining any doubtful geographical points for you here, which you may esteem useful for the work you have in hand, I shall be very happy to communicate to you any information within the reach of the department under my direction.

From my profession you are not to expect much erudition; but a very unlettered observer on the spot must have evidently many advantages over the most learned reasoner at a distance.

I shall be very much obliged to you, if either yourself or any one of your learned friends can tell me if the preposition *Κατα, cum accusativo,* may be made to signify *ad, to.* The topography of Syracuse absolutely requires a passage in Thucydides to be thus rendered. He says, (*Συγγ. ϛ'. prope finem,*) "ὁ δε πεζος εχωρει ευθυς δρομῳ προς τας Επιπολας, και φθανει αναβας κατα το Ευρυηλον," which H. Stephanus (*edit. Francof.* 1594, *fol.*), thus translates: "sed peditatus cursu confestim ad Epipolas contendit, et per Euryelum [*illuc*] ocyùs ascendit [*et occupavit*]." The words in brackets are printed in italics; and by them it is evident that Stephens understood what the text seems to imply, that the Athenians *ascended* through *Euryelus* (a hill) to occupy *Epipolæ,* which is impossible: for, first, *Epipolæ* is lower than *Euryelus* and lies under it, that is, is nearer to Ortygia and the sea; and, secondly, because the Athenians, having landed at *Lĕo,* between *Thapsus* and *Syracuse,* it is necessary to pass through *Epipolæ* to get at *Euryelus:* at least it is the shortest and best road. My wish, therefore, is to render the passage of Thucydides thus, "sed peditatus cursu confestim ad Epipolas contendit, et ascendens *usque* ad Euryelum occupat *illum,*" sc. Euryelum. If this cannot be admitted consistently with the Greek idiom, Thucydides has made a mistake; though

his local knowledge is in general wonderfully correct.

I may here by the way observe, that in all the editions of Livy I have seen, there is a typographical error, by which a *gate* is turned into a *haven*. We read "*ad portum Trogiliorum*," instead of *portam*.* There may also have been such a haven near Syracuse *(hodie Sentino, forsan)*; but the context shows that the assault made by Marcellus was a *land* operation. This *gate* was "*propter Turrim Galegram*:" that is, near the place now called *Scala Græca*; and, for want of this slight amendment of reading *a* for *u*, which I do, *meo periculo*, Amico, the annotator of Fazello, writes some nonsense.

May I take the liberty of asking if you are likely to favor the world with an enlarged and new edition of your *Essay on Coins*: the last edition I have seen is of 1808, which teaches us so much that one wishes to learn more from the same master. If a new edition is in contemplation, I beg your bookseller will send a copy to Mr. Carpenter in Bond Street for me, who will pay him for it. I have written to Mr. Carpenter: if no new edition is preparing, I beg the last may be sent.

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* Drakenborch, who also reads *portum*, not *portam*, has a long note upon this passage; the first sentence in which note is a quotation from *Glareanus*, who observes he does not understand what *portum* can mean in this place. It appears by this note that the Roman edition of 1472, and several others, have *portam*, as suggested by Gen. Donkin.

MR. HENRY SIDDONS TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, Dec. 1st, 1812.*

Mr. Siddons, with the greatest respect, returns Mr. Pinkerton's tragedy. Mr. Siddons has read it with great satisfaction, but is forced to declare that it is quite beyond the capability of a company out of London. It would be impossible any where else to get the characters, particularly the female parts (of which three should be sustained by clever actresses) done any justice to.

The play likewise requires the aid of peculiar

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* Just before this time, Mr. Pinkerton, broken in health and annoyed by a variety of circumstances, but particularly by the embarrassed state of his pecuniary affairs, had removed from London to Edinburgh, there to take up his residence. His friend, Mr. Young, in a letter written three months previously to this, tried hard to dissuade him from such a step; representing how few of his former acquaintances he would find alive, how unfavorable the air of Scotland was likely to prove to an invalid, and how little prospect there was of his turning his talents to any profitable account, north of the Tweed. "I know of no literary situations in Scotland," says he, "which do not in a manner appertain to the clergy and professors, who have the eyes of a hawk for them. The independent spirit you carried out of this country should keep you above all changes of fortune; and the reputation you have acquired in a department in which reputation will long survive you, should console you for almost any disappointment. No man considers himself to have been successful equal to his merits; and many of my acquaintance whose prosperity I have most envied, I have found, on a nearer examination, to be miserable from some hidden cause."

scenery and much splendor in the articles of dresses and decorations.

If Mr. Siddons may be allowed the liberty of advice, he would recommend it to Mr. Pinkerton to send the manuscript to the Drury Lane managers, who, he makes no doubt, would pay it every attention; as Mr. Siddons is convinced that the nature of the play requires the aid of magnificence in its getting up.

MR. HENRY SIDDONS TO MR. PINKERTON.

Edinburgh, March 24th, 1813.

I was in hopes that I should have seen you when the play* was over last night. I can assure you

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* The name of the play was *The Heiress of Strathern, or the Rash Marriage;* and it was stated in the bills to be "a tragedy written by a gentleman of Edinburgh, and never acted on any stage." Mr. Terry, afterwards of the London theatres, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Siddons, performed parts in it. Whether this is the same tragedy, as is referred to in former letters in this correspondence, I have no means of knowing. The epilogue was very obligingly written by Mr. R. P. Gillies, to whom Sir W. Scott had recommended Mr. Pinkerton to apply on the occasion. The prologue was from his own pen; and, as no specimen of his poetry has yet been given in these volumes, I am induced to subjoin it, to enable the reader to judge of those powers which have so often been praised in the course of this correspondence, and to warn the young against giving too implicit a belief to the kind praises of obliging friends. However Mr. Pinkerton's name may live hereafter as an antiquary, as a poet it assuredly never will.

——————"mediocribus esse poetis
Non homines, non dii, non concessere columnæ."

no possible exertion was spared on the part of the performers. Several poetical passages were most highly applauded; but, when the audience discovered the circumstance of the brother and sister, they grew outrageous, and would hardly suffer Mr. Terry to conclude the play.

I stood on the stage several minutes to obtain a

"PROLOGUE.

"In vain the prologue's art to raise applause,
'Tis patient merit that must win the cause:
To Shakspeare's ardent soul alone were given
The pomp and prodigality of heaven;
And since the splendor of the Grecian stage,
Few powerful dramas grace each distant age.
See Œdipus his thundering terrors roll,
While crimes of fate alone torment the soul:
Crimes of the good, chief vultures of the breast,
Where guilt would scorn, but virtue stands confest.
In classic Latium Greece no rival found;
Till modern times she held the tragic ground;
Nor, till the arts revived, was felt again
The thrilling horror of the Grecian scene;
While heaven-born Pity heaved the conscious sigh,
And Sympathy suffused each radiant eye;
While daunted crowds a sacred silence kept,
And patriot warriors wonder'd how they wept.
Our stage, where Douglas bore his earliest bays,
Again our native chiefs and scenes displays.
Again our country tries its potent charm,
Our minds to elevate, our hearts to warm.
Though small our space and numbers to sustain
The blaze of chivalry's illustrious reign,
Our humble efforts with indulgence view,
Whose only hope of trophies is from you:
The scoffs of blame 'tis easy to bestow;
Those judge the best, whose breasts with candor glow."

hearing for it a second night, which I could not effect. I still was in hopes of carrying the point; but, when the farce began, the storm was renewed; and nothing would pacify the audience but the giving out another play. The repetition would have only been wounding your feelings, which, I can assure you, I consulted at least as much as I did my own; for my interests were concerned in its being acted on this night. That the piece should not have answered our wishes I most truly regret upon every account.

MR. WEBER TO MR PINKERTON.*

Perth, April 7th, 1813.

I was particularly gratified to receive your mineralogical directions relative to our tour, and shall endeavor to comply with them as far as we can. I will take particular care to search for the circus on Mull, and try to exculpate M. Faujas. I have admired the palace at Scoone very much, particularly the large quantity of fine oak. Dunsinane is a very interesting hill; and the ditches round the castle very discernible, as well as one cutting

* Henry Weber, Esq. author of the *Battle of Flodden Field*, 1809, 8vo, and editor of *Metrical Romances of the 13th, 14th, and 15th centuries, published from antient manuscripts, with an Introduction, Notes, and Glossary*, 1810, 3 vols. 8vo., also of the *Dramatic works of John Ford*, and of those of *Beaumont and Fletcher*, both of them accompanied with an Introduction and Notes.

through the surface, and dividing it into an oblong and the half of a circle. The hill, if I judge right, consists of micaceous schistus, with a kind of brown tufa, and many pebbles of quartz. This morning we shall take a view of Kinnoul Craigs, where a cave is shown, asserted to have contained Wallace.

We propose to go on foot all the way as far as Caithness, and to return by the isles of Sky, Mull, and Staffa. We have about thirty letters of recommendation to different lairds and clergymen, and shall certainly make out a journal, my companions being very good draughtsmen. I shall endeavor to pick up some minerals for you: perhaps you will give me directions where to look for them. We have a Highland piper from Sky, who gained the second prize in the competition here, to attend us the whole way; and he will serve as our interpreter, and also amuse the Highlanders.

I am sorry to understand that you were so little pleased with the latter part of the catalogue of your *Voyages and Travels*. But I must beg of you to recollect that the whole of Europe was corrected by Berchtfold's catalogue, and that the rest of the work depended almost entirely upon the French catalogue of Richardière, which was very incorrect as to English, and many of the other works of the kind. I had at that period no connexion with any bookseller but Mr. John Ballantyne; and he could furnish me with the loan of no books, after he began his first sale. No doubt the delay must have inconvenienced you; and to that I plead guilty.

MR. DEMPSTER TO MR. PINKERTON.*

St. Andrew's, June 8th, 1813.

On my coming here last night your interesting letter reached me, followed me indeed from Dunnichen, of the 4th instant. As Calisthenes said to Parmenio, "you have been born to struggle manfully with hardships." Matrimonial ones are common. I have been luckier in that lottery; but my sweetheart at first, and my nurse at last, after thirty-six years of servitude, left me childless three years ago, which has edged my paper and clothed my person with black ever since.

Were you never so rich, I durst not put a finger into your purse; but you have opened your mind liberally to me and mankind, which could not have happened with a more ample credit at your banker's. I am glad you are among us, and disposed to spare me a little of your time. You shall hear how mine is engrossed. An old friend has attended me here, and occupies my only spare

* In this letter was inclosed one from Mr. Dempster to Lord Melville, evidently intended to serve as an introduction for Mr. Pinkerton to that nobleman. In it he says, "all that concerns me and my family Mr. Pinkerton knows; and I hold myself in readiness to post to Melville House, as soon as I shall be informed of the time of his visiting your lordship. I am desirous of meeting a very learned man, whom I esteem, but never saw. He is the most sensible, I might almost say the only sensible, writer on our Scotch antiquities. He has carried, I will not say a flambeau, but a lamp, into a very obscure period of the Scotch history, and a very remote one."

cell. A new one, who has bought an estate in my parish, purposes passing with his wife and family some part of this month at Dunnichen, which must shorten my time here. It is therefore at Dunnichen I hope you will come to me. I'll tell you the precise day I shall, please God, be there. By a line you'll let me know the moment you intend coming to me. Convenient telegraphic coaches bring you to Forfar: there take a chaise I shall have ready for you at the new inn (Barricks) to convey you four miles, and bring you to me. I long much to meet with you. Three years prisoner in France! Geographer and historiographer of the rest of the planet! Rummager into the rubbish of Scotch trash, to bring us out some gems, though dusky, to enrich our cabinets!!!

Poor Thorkelin's library! I am glad he has survived it. He has preserved a great share of it in his brains. That little treatise on the Slave Trade had more sense and learning in a few pages than were contained in all the declamations that subject produced. Till we meet I should be happy to hear from you. Is the state of your bodily health improved?

THE REV. DR. STUART* TO MR. PINKERTON.

College, Aberdeen, Oct. 20th, 1813.

I was duly favored with your letter the other day, and am very happy to find that you have returned in safety from your northern tour among the Celtic barbarians to your more comfortable residence in Edinburgh.

I herewith send you, by a private opportunity, a rude engraving of our new bridge, which is tolerably accurate, and I hope will answer the purpose intended. I also send copies of my drawings of the two stones at Newton,† although I

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* Rev. John Stuart, D. D. Professor of Greek in the Marischal College at Aberdeen.

† Mr. Pinkerton also published engravings of these two very remarkable stones in the second edition of his *Inquiry into the Early History of Scotland;* and, in the advertisement prefixed to that edition, p. 13, he gives the following description of them: "One of the most interesting monuments of this kind has been recently discovered at Pitmachie in Aberdeenshire, being the second stage from Aberdeen on the road to Huntley. Here, in a small thicket near the toll-bar, were two stones of small-grained granite (while the others are mostly red sandstone subject to decay) and rising about six feet above the ground. Both these stones are represented in the annexed plate; but the one with a serpent is now removed to the adjacent house of Newton. That which remains presents the inscription annexed, which is reduced from a fac-simile of the natural size, executed under the eye of the proprietor, and repeatedly examined by Professor Stuart, to whom the author cannot sufficiently express his sense of his kind assistance on this and other occasions. The letters are about an inch and a

think I mentioned to you that they were already engraved in the *Monthly Magazine* for July, 1806; though the editor unaccountably neglected to engrave the larger fac-simile of the inscription. As I esteem this to be one of the most curious things ever discovered in our country, I much wish that some explanation of it could be procured. The emblematical figures, so common upon our monumental stones, also very much require and deserve illustration.

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half in length, and cut to the depth of about a quarter of an inch.

"This curious inscription, which is, it is believed, unique, is now submitted to the literati. The characters seem to resemble the Anglo-Saxon, as published by Hickes, especially those on the coins of the kings of Northumbria of the ninth century. It is reasonable indeed to infer that any arts of civilization passed from the south to the north, there being no intercourse with the continent except by rude mariners; for, even in the sixth century, as we learn from the life of St. Columba, Gallic mariners visited the western islands of Scotland. It is also remarkable, that in the same curious biography we find mention of a Saxon *pistor*, or baker. In later times we know from an English historian, the Scots made, on one occasion, so many prisoners, that scarcely a cottage was without its slave. It is also to be supposed that, during the inroads of the Pagan Danes, many of the Christian Saxons sought refuge in a country, which, though often inimical, was yet of the same faith. But these observations are submitted to the curious inquirer, and the letters and the language to the examination of the learned of all countries."

THE REV. DR. STUART TO MR. PINKERTON.

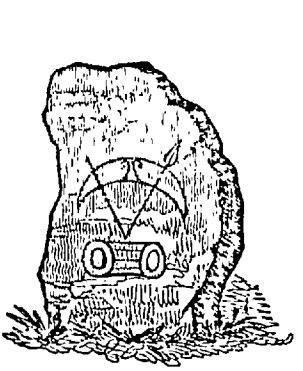
College, Aberdeen, Nov. 3d, 1813.

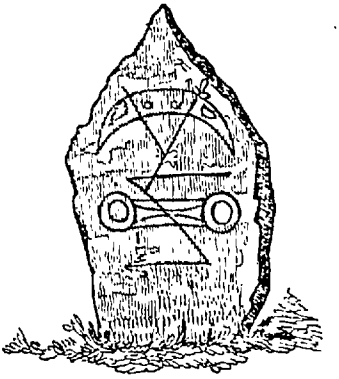
I hope you have received safely the small parcel announced in my former letter, which was sent by a young man, Mr. Ogilvie, a student of medicine, who promised to see it carefully delivered.

As, without any compliment, I consider you as one of the persons most capable in this country of deciphering (if it may be so called) the hieroglyphical sculptures on our ancient stone monuments, which, although of much importance, has scarcely hitherto been attempted,* I now send

* "It is well known," says Mr. Pinkerton, (second edition of his *Inquiry into the History of Scotland*, p. x.) "that there exist in various parts of Scotland, but chiefly on the east side from the river Tay as far as the county of Sutherland, singular erect stones, generally with crosses on one side, and upon the other sculptures not ill executed for a barbarous age. These chiefly abound in the county of Angus, the centre of the Pictish dominions. There are four at Aberlemno and five at Meigle, including a lintel over the door of the clergyman's garden, which has upon one side cattle and a deer seized by a dog, and on the other salmon and other fish; but the latter have been almost erased by a barbarous modern chisel. That at the chapel at Auldbar is singular; as, instead of horsemen and spears, there are two persons sitting, probably religious; and beneath them, a man seemingly tearing out a lion's tongue, perhaps Samson, and opposite to him a curious figure of an antique harp: under these are a man on horseback, a lamb, a bullock, and perhaps an ass. At Meigle the most curious is that representing a lady riding in a British car with a single horse and driver. One at Glamis, like the lintel above mentioned, and

you two other specimens of the same kind, with similar emblematical figures. One of them was originally placed alongside of the two already in your possession, and the other at no great distance in the same neighborhood: you may depend on their being accurately copied.





I think I formerly compared the letters of the

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another at Meigle, presents salmon, which, like the deer and cattle, probably point to the sources of wealth of the distinguished persons to whose memory they were erected. Under the salmon at Glamis is a mirror, which always indicates a female. On the stone lately discovered at Dunnichen, the seat of my excellent friend, George Dempster, Esq., there are a mirror and a comb; and the same symbols occur on another published by Mr. Cordiner in his *Picturesque Antiquities*, and which also represents the lady riding out to hunt, with two footmen blowing horns, and two other attendants on horseback.

It is much to be wished that a general collection of all these curious monuments were published in plates of a just size; those of Mr. Pennant being too diminutive, as well as those of Mr. Cordiner, whose representations cannot be trusted, his imagination being strangely perverted by some fantastic ideas of the picturesque, while those of Mr. Gordon are too rude and inaccurate."

inscription sent, you in October with the alphabet of Ulphilas's Gospels,* and found some of the characters similar, but others by no means so. It must, however, belong to some northern alphabet; and I believe we know of none of these more ancient than his Gothic. I forget whether I formerly mentioned to you that it had been submitted to the well known General Vallancey, who translated the Phœnician scene in Plautus as *good old Irish*;† and he read the two first words of it *Gylf-Gummara*, i. e. "Prince Gylf," but acknowledged his inability to proceed any farther; and even in this I think he was wrong. *Gulph* or *Gylf*, he says, led a body of northern Scythians from the western

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* For the alphabet used in Ulphilas's Gospels see Fry's *Pantographia*, p. 103, where it is styled Mæso-Gothic. Mr. Astle, in his *Origin and Progress of Writing*, p. 87, says on this subject: "Those writers are certainly mistaken who attribute the invention of Gothic letters to Ulphilas, bishop of Mæsia, who lived in the fourth century. The gospels translated by him into the Gothic language, and written in ancient Gothic characters about the year 370, were formerly kept in the library of the monastery of Werden; but this manuscript is now preserved in the library at Upsal, and is known among the learned by the title of the "silver book of Ulphilas," because it is bound in massy silver. Several editions of this manuscript have been printed. See a specimen of it in Hickes's *Thesaurus*, Vol. I. preface, p. 8. Dr. Hickes positively disallows this translation to be Ulphilas's; but says it was made by some Teuton or German, either as old, or perhaps older than Ulphilas; but whether this was so or not, the characters are apparently of Greek original."

† See Essay on the *Antiquity of the Irish Language* in the *Collectanea de Rebus Hibernicis*, II. p. 302, and Sir L. Parsons' *Defence of the Ancient History of Ireland*, p. 138.

coast of the Black Sea to the Baltic, soon after Odin, of whom he was a descendant. His residence was at Upsal, about the æra of the expedition of Pompey against these people.

Gumnar, or *Gummar*, he says, "dicuntur populi duces." He refers to Ihre's *Lexicon Suevo-Gothicum*, and Rozin's Essay on the *Mythology and Ancient Literature of the North*, which I have never seen.

MR. DEMPSTER TO MR. PINKERTON.

Dunnichen, Nov. 30th, 1813.

Your favor of the 18th and I have been playing bo-peep till yesterday, when we met full face here.

There is nothing more natural than your wish to be placed in our Register Office; you, whose works are the only true register of Scotch public events. I don't think you quite so accurate as to those falling under our own observation. How can you imagine merit supplants interest, or that your views can be promoted by explaining their public utility to a dotard, who retired twenty years ago from public affairs, and who has survived two or three whole sets of members of both houses of parliament, except the very man who could serve you, Lord Frederick Campbell; but with whom he never but once eat or drank, and scarce ever conversed, and to whom any application from me would do no service, but on the contrary hurt? It would be said I was tampering

in politics when I should be in my grave, or, the next step to it, my cell, saying my prayers and counting my beads. If I have any merit, it is knowing my own station between life and death.

Yet I should rejoice to see any relic of Pictish times. A Pictish inscription would be worth a hundred guineas a letter. I bewail the necessity of your relinquishing our Scotch *Vera Historia*. You and Walter Scott might paraphrase it. Our children would get it by heart; and, if brought down to Sir Thomas Graham, our modern hero, it would make a companion for Sir William Wallace, and supplant Barbour. I thank you for calling on my widow. Your conversation will be useful to her excellent modest son. I rejoice your precious stones are found. Had they been lost, I could easily have spared you my collection.

THE REV. DR. STUART TO MR. PINKERTON.

College, Aberdeen, Dec. 20th, 1813.

I was regularly favored with your last, and have now the pleasure of transmitting you, by one of my sons who goes to settle with a namesake of mine, a merchant in Leith, a fac-simile of the inscription on the stone at Newton.* It has been

* This fac-simile is very faithfully copied in the plate of *Stones at Pitmachie*, which accompanies the second edition of Mr. Pinkerton's *Inquiry into the History of Scotland*, I. p. xxii.

very kindly furnished me by Alexander Gordon, Esq. of Newton, the proprietor of the lands; and he assures me that its accuracy may be perfectly depended on, being of the same size of letters with the original, and, after being copied, frequently compared with it. He further adds, that if, after all, you should desire to have a copy taken in the way you propose, he will be very glad to see me for that purpose in a more favorable season, and that he will afford every assistance in his power. I am convinced, however, from my own comparison and observation, that the one now sent is very accurate; and I hope you will think it satisfactory.

As to your reading of it, I consider it as at least very ingenious, if not entirely just; though it must be esteemed peculiarly unfortunate, that, after having made out the letters, there is not one word that is intelligible in any of the northern or other languages with which we are acquainted. Yet the form of the characters must be from the ancient Gothic; and some of the letters plainly exhibit their Grecian origin. Whatever be the case, as it appears to me to be an unique, so far as I have seen or read, in this island, it highly deserves to be engraven and circulated over Europe. We have no engraver here to be trusted with it; and you will do a great service to your country by your endeavors to get it explained.

I intended also to have sent you at this time a drawing of what is called the Maiden Stone, near the mountain of Benochie, about six miles from Newton; but, besides that it is (from the cross on the back of it) evidently a Christian monument, I

have found so exact a representation of it in plate 59 of Gordon's *Itinerarium*,* that it is quite unnecessary. By the by, although I have a very mean opinion of Gordon's knowledge in these matters, he has made some ingenious conjectures in explanation of some of the many monuments of this sort published by him, particularly upon one in the church-yard of Glamis,† (plate 61,) said to have been erected in memory of the murder of Malcolm II., anno 1033.

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* "Alexander Gordon, who was an historian of some note, an excellent draughtsman, and a good Greek scholar, was a native of Scotland, and died in Carolina about 1750. He published, among other works, an Itinerarium Septentrionale, or a Journey through most of the counties of Scotland and those of the North of England. In two parts. Illustrated with sixty-six copper-plates. Part 1, an account of Roman antiquities found and collected on that journey; 2, an account of the Danish invasions of Scotland, and the monuments erected there on the different defeats of that people.—London, 1726, folio. He farther published, as a continuation of the same work, additions and corrections, by way of supplements, containing several dissertations on, and descriptions of, Roman antiquities discovered in Scotland since publishing the said Itinerary. Together with observations on other ancient monuments found in the north of England, never before published.—London, 1732." *Watts's Bibliotheca Britannica.*

† The stone here referred to at Glamis is figured, together with some others, in the third volume of Mr. Pennant's Tour, plate 18. That ingenious author says, in speaking of these stones, "they are supposed to have been erected in memory of victories over the Danes, and other great events that happened in those parts. Like the round towers, they are local monuments, but still more confined, being, as far as I can learn, unknown in Ireland, and indeed limited to the eastern side of North Britain; for I hear of none beyond the Firth of Murray or that of Forth."—In the contracted limits here assigned to these monuments Mr. Pennant is undoubtedly wrong: they

Among some other things of that sort, I have lately procured a very rude rusty iron ring, of four or five inches diameter, which was lately dug up in the camp of Raedykes* near Stonehyve, believed to have been that of the Caledonians previous to their last engagement with Agricola; and I think, of this being the scene of action the evidence amounts almost to demonstration. You may laugh as you please, and I dare say you will do so; yet I truly tell you that I really conjecture it to have been a hoop to receive the axle of one of the war chariots said by Tacitus to have been used by the Caledonians in that battle.

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are evidently crosses, or the stumps of crosses, similar to those at Clocmacnois and Kilcullen figured by Ledwich in his *Antiquities of Ireland* (*plates* 4 and 5); and many similar ones are known in the same country.

* Neither Mr. Pinkerton himself in his *Inquiry*, nor any author that I have had an opportunity of consulting, mentions this camp at Raedykes: the place where the battle was fought between Agricola and Galgacus has been the matter of much controvèrsy. Brotier, following the authority of Gordon in his *Itinerarium*, is of opinion it was in Strathern, half a mile south of the kirk of Comerie. His reasons for so thinking are given at length by Horsley in the *Britannia Romana*, p. 44; but Horsley himself rather inclines to believe that it must have been further beyond the Tay than the spot assigned by Mr. Gordon. He adds, "a very ingenious gentleman informed me of a place called Fortingal Camp, near which he inclined to think the field of battle might have been." Mr. Pennant, speaking of the same battle, *Tour in Scotland*, III. p. 160, tells us he saw "not fewer than three Roman camps not remote from this range of hills, which Agricola might have occupied, and before one of them drawn out his forces to receive the enemy. Of these, one is at Kiethic, near Brechin; a second near Caerboddo, between Forfar and Panmure, and a third near Kennymoor, called Battledikes."

MR. GEORGE ROBERTSON* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Benholme, Dec. 22d, 1813.

As soon as I had the pleasure to receive your letter, I wrote to the schoolmaster of Arbuthnot,

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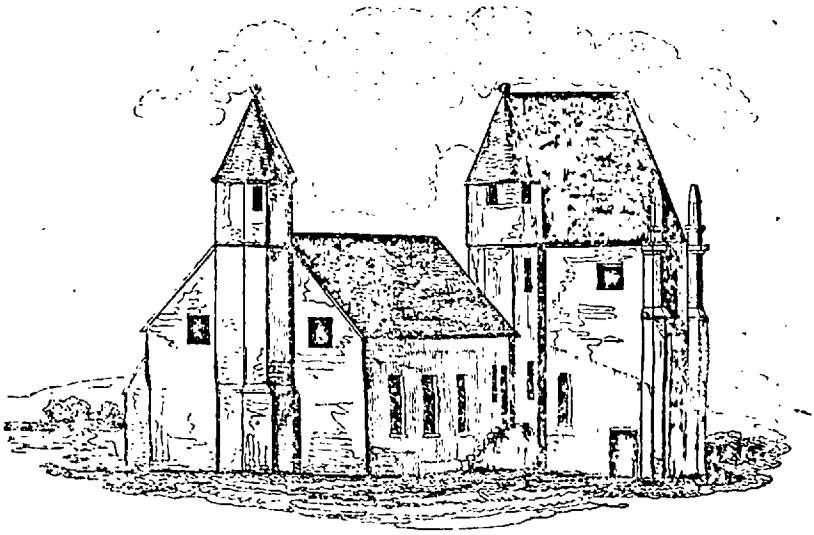
* Author of a *General View of the Agriculture of the County of Mid Lothian, with observations on the means of its improvement; Edin.* 1795, 8*vo*, and of a *General Description of the Shire of Renfrew*, &c.—I have inserted this otherwise uninteresting letter, with a view of affording myself the opportunity of introducing a figure of one of the most remarkable ecclesiastical buildings I ever saw; and more in the hopes of calling the attention of other antiquaries to the subject, than from a feeling that I am enabled to throw any light upon it myself. The drawing is by no means of the class of those which I should designate by the terms which Mr. Robertson has applied to it. I would rather say that it is one from which it is impossible to form any satisfactory opinion.

Mr. Pinkerton, as I learn through the kindness of Mr. Thomson, when last in Scotland visited Mr. Robertson at Benholme in Kincardineshire, and upon that occasion went to the church at Arbuthnot, of which Mr. Robertson procured him the drawing in question from Mr. Milne, then the schoolmaster, now the minister of the parish. The same friend has very obligingly sent the following particulars of the building, extracted from the statistical account of the parish published by Sir John Sinclair:—"The church is a very ancient fabric of ashlar work, but now in very bad repair. To the church is adjoining an aisle of beautiful antique workmanship, which was built by an Alexander Arbuthnot, brother to the Baron of Arbuthnot, and parson of Arbuthnot and Logie Buchan. He was elected first Protestant Principal of King's College, Aberdeen, in the year 1569. The lower part of this aisle was intended, and has been used as a burial-place for the family of Arbuthnot; and in the upper part was a well-finished apartment filled with books chiefly on divinity, many of which remained there till of late. This was Mr. Arbuthnot's library,

to remind him of his promise; and I yesterday got from him the inclosed very accurate drawing of the church and old tower.



Lord Arbuthnot tells me that he has found a large quantity of old papers, which he has sent *en masse*, to be arranged and inventoried by a gentleman in Edinburgh. I shall endeavor to procure

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which he bequeathed for the use of the clergy of the Mearns." It is remarkable that Mr. Pinkerton should have left no memorandum regarding this church; though, in the advertisement prefixed to the second edition of his *Inquiry into the early History of Scotland*, he touches upon the subject of the most ancient ecclesiastical structures in that kingdom; and, speaking of the round towers, exactly similar to those in Ireland, attached to the churches at Abernethy and Brechin, pronounces a decided opinion that they were belfries. Whatever the character of those at Arbuthnot, whether they are to be classed with the Irish ones or with those of our Norfolk and Suffolk churches, they are very uncommon and very remarkable.

you a list of them, and a perusal of such as you may wish to see. I am much gratified by your obliging offer of advice and assistance to my son, Hercules, in the course and direction of his studies, of which he will be happy to avail himself.

THE REV. JOHN BLACK* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Coylton, by Ayr, Jan. 17th, 1814.

The very night before I left Edinburgh I had an opportunity of seeing the edition of Cicero by the younger Aldus, from whose address to Crichton, prefixed to the *Paradoxa* of Cicero, I copied the passage relative to the mark on the young Scotsman's face. I intended to have sent it to you previously to my leaving town, but forgot in the bustle of other business. It is as follows:—"Sed non innumerabiles vitæ tuæ transactæ laudes, non mirificam illam coram serenissimo principe ac illustrissimis Venetæ reipublicæ proceribus actionem, non subtilissimas tuas de Theologiâ, Philosophiâ et rebus mathematicis disputationes in plerisque maximorum hominum consessibus recensebo; non tantorum hominum ad te videndum concursum, ut olim Platoni a Siciliâ revertenti, relicto Olympico spectaculo, tota Atheniensium celebritas occurrisse fertur, *cùm te omnes signo*

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* Author of the *Life of Torquato Tasso, with an historical and critical account of his writings.*—Edin. 1810. 2 vols. 4to.

rubeæ rosæ, quod tibi natura circa dextrum lumen impressit, tanquam unicam et raram in terris avem homines cognoscerent." It should seem from this that the mark of a red rose round the right eye of Crichton was pretty conspicuous, and that at the same time it was no deformity, or otherwise Aldus would not thus have alluded to it.

In glancing yesterday over the works of Colomesius,* I found a passage confirming what you mentioned to me relative to the edition of Marco Polo which you showed me.—" M. Vossius," says he, " m'a fait voir un exemplaire de M. Polo, Vénitien, in 8vo, d'ancienne édition, contenant plusieurs particularités, qui ne se trouvent point dans ceux que Ramusio a mis dans son Recueil."

I beg that you will remember me to our friend, Mr. Gillies, and will pardon the trouble I give you.

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* It were difficult to say which is the work here referred to; for Colomesius was a very voluminous and multifarious writer. Originally a Frenchman of Rochelle, whence in his works he designates himself Paulus Colomesius *Rupellensis*, he took refuge in England, as being a Protestant, in the latter half of the seventeenth century, and there enjoyed the friendship of Vossius, who became his great patron. His *Gallia Orientalis*, containing an account of the lives of such of his countrymen as had applied themselves to eastern literature, his *Bibliothèque Choisie*, and his *Mélanges Historiques* are works which still retain a place in libraries; but his more voluminous theological writings are now scarcely known. The remark of Baillet respecting him is well known, that he was " le grand auteur des petits livrets."

LORD FREDERICK CAMPBELL TO MR. DEMPSTER.*

February 15th, 1814.

Your letter wanted no preface or excuse. It gave me infinite satisfaction, as a sort of bulletin of an old friend's health, certified by his own steady hand, instead of a physician's trembling pen.

I too have my health at a very advanced age, with a few old friends like yourself still living; but, from having been so very long out of parliament,

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* This letter was inclosed to Mr. Pinkerton in the following note from Mr. Dempster:

"St. Andrew's, February 18th, 1814.

"My dear Sir—Here is the fruit of all our applications! Hoping that you can do without what was sought for you, and that you enjoy good health, more valuable than a *guid post ownder the government*,

"I remain, very respectfully yours."

In a previous letter, which I have not printed, Mr. Dempster had assured Mr. Pinkerton that he had written in the strongest terms, both as to his qualifications and as to the credit which Lord F. Campbell would derive from so public-spirited improvement in his office; "but," he adds, "to speak frankly, I expect no fruit from my application unless supported by power. It would be a solecism in politics if an ex-member of parliament, retired from the world for these last twenty years, could obtain for a friend, especially for a man qualified for the office, a place of 200*l.* or 300*l.* a year. Therefore get what reinforcements you can."

The place sought was, most probably, one in the Registrar Office, over which Lord Frederick Campbell at that time presided.

not one have I among the ministers and great men of these times.

If I knew my way to the Treasury, as formerly, I would endeavor to press forwards Mr. Pinkerton's object of a moderate pension; for I know him to be a learned, industrious antiquary, and your friend.

Believe me this is not the first very proper and pressing application which I have found myself forced to decline.

THE REV. JAMES MILLER TO MR. PINKERTON.

Eussie, Feb. 21st, 1814.

I am almost ashamed to think that I have been so long in attempting to answer yours of 4th January. But I had good reasons; and some of these reasons yet prevent me from giving you so particular an answer as I could have wished. I delayed writing until I should learn what to write: I inquired about the stone near Dundee, the history of the abbey at Cupar, and the depth of the pool at the Reeky-Linn. The weather has prevented me from inspecting the fine scenery on the Isla. I am told that the history of the abbey is not to be found; but you shall have the fruits of my labors about the stone.

The tradition, as I had it from a very intelligent and ingenious gentleman, who was born and brought up near the spot, is as follows:—At a

period very far back, when this country was a forest, and that forest was the habitation of wolves, about three miles north-west from Dundee, there lived a man whose name was Martin. He was blessed with a beautiful family of nine daughters, who were employed by their father in bringing water to slake his thirst, from a neighboring pleasant fountain. Once upon a time, according to his usual custom, Martin sent one of his daughters to the well for water, and, she failing to return in the ordinary time, he sent another, and another, and another, and another, until all the nine were gone; and the unhappy father was then informed that they had been devoured by a dragon (alias, a wolf). Immediately Martin mounted his steed, and proceeding to the fatal spot, encountered the murderer of his children. The animal fled, and Martin pursued, followed by some of his neighbors, who called out to him, "Strike, Martin:" hence the name of the district and parish *Strik-Martin*. At the distance of about two miles west from the well, the victory was completed; and Martin transfixed the animal with his spear. On this spot is erected the stone in question, a rude obelisk, plain on one side, and on the other bearing the representation of the last scene of the conflict; Martin on horseback piercing a dragon through with his spear. There is no inscription. Agreeably to this tradition, the stream, into which the water of this well runs, is called *Gory-burn*, and the track through which Martin pursued is named the *Den of Bal Dragon*. In the church-yard of Strik-Martin are shown the

graves of the nine daughters, and a stone, bearing the representation of the face of a human being, with a serpent fastened to each ear, as if in the act of devouring. This is a very pretty story, and very similar to many that you may meet with in other parts of the kingdom. I know you will put as little faith in this as in the history of Vanora at Meigle.* No matter: such is the story; and I have no doubt it refers to the vengeance inflicted on some enemy of Martin and his family. I could give you fifty very beautiful intrepretations of it; but you would not be a bit the wiser for them

* Mr. Pennant observes of Meigle, (*Tour in Scotland*, III. p. 178,) that it is rich in antiquities, and that the church-yard is replete with stones of an ornamental kind abounding with hieroglyphic columns. All these are engraved by Gordon, in his *Itinerarium Septentrionale*, a work I have no opportunity of referring to, or possibly I might be enabled to throw some further light upon the stone at Strik-Martin, which is the principal subject of this letter. Of those at Meigle, Mr. Pennant has figured three, in the upper part of one front of the most curious of which are dogs and horsemen; and below are represented four wild beasts, resembling lions devouring a human figure. He adds, "the country-people call all of them *Queen Vanora's grave-stones*, and relate that she was the wife of King Arthur; I suppose the same lady that we Welsh call *Guinever* and *Guenhumara*, to whose chastity neither historians nor bards do much credit. The traditions of these parts are not more favorable to her memory. The peasants assert that, after the defeat of her lover, she was imprisoned in a fort, on the hill of Barra, opposite to this place, and that there she died, and was interred in the parish of Meigle. Others again say that she was torn to pieces by wild beasts, to which this sculpture alludes; if, as Mr. Gordon supposes, the carvings might not sometimes prove the foundation of the tale."

all. Let the destroyers of women tremble at the thoughts of Martin's spear.

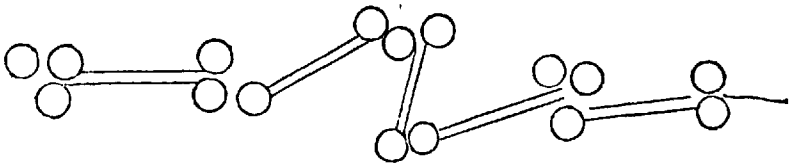
It is probable I might have waited till I had been able to give you the account of the falls upon the Isla and this together; but I was afraid, lest you should not then be found at No. 24, Duke's Street, or even in Edinburgh. The moment the weather permits, I shall go to the place and gather all the information I can. Speaking of antiquities, I may mention that, if Walter Scott were publishing any more old ballads, I believe I could furnish him with some good fragments, from the memory of a lady in this parish, which he may not perhaps have seen.

REV. DR. STUART TO MR. PINKERTON.

College, Aberdeen, Feb. 28th, 1814.

A little to the north of the house of Drum, belonging to the ancient family of Irvine, in the parish of Dalmaik, about ten miles from Aberdeen, on a low hill covered with furze and heath, are to be seen the foundations of a great number of circular habitations, as they at least appear to be, of various diameters from ten to twenty feet. They are rudely constructed of stones of all sizes, heaped up without any cement or much regularity, the walls in general being about two feet high above ground. Of these there commonly are three close to each other, and connected with two or three

more, at a small distance, by parallel walls of the same structure, in this form.



Of these structures there were seen at least forty or fifty; and there may perhaps be many more scattered over a surface of above a mile. The place has no particular name, nor is there any tradition respecting it. It lies about four miles north from the river Dee, where still are to be seen the remains of a very large encampment, called Norman Dykes; which, from two square angles, plainly appeared to have been Roman. It is placed on an eminence on the north bank of the river, commanding a very extensive view, and, besides, an excellent ford. This camp lies about twelve miles north of that near Ury or Stonehyve, called Rae-dykes, which by many has been supposed the scene of the battle between Agricola and Galgacus.* Here the Romans may be supposed to have crossed the river in their passage northwards; and these remains, only four miles distant, may be supposed the chief town of the Texali, who then occupied this district.

Burgh-head† is a promontory projecting into the

* See p. 416. (note to Dr. Stuart's letter, 20th December, 1813.)

† This promontory has been supposed by many antiquaries, and among others by Mr. Pinkerton, to be the position of the

Moray Frith, about ten miles from Forres, eastward, which is connected with the adjacent coast by a very narrow neck of land. The promontory is composed of a free-stone rock, rising about sixty feet above the level of the surrounding sea, and contains within it perhaps two Scotch acres. On the west side is a small haven or harbor, finely sheltered from the easterly winds blowing up the frith. All round the top of the rock are seen the remains of a rampart, consisting of pieces of free-stone of all sizes, intermixed with lime and fragments of wood, having the appearance of being partially burned. On some pieces of the free-stone are remains of moulding and carved figures, particularly of a bull,* very well executed. Across the isthmus are three concentric ditches of a very great width and depth, fully equal to those at Ardoch or any other Roman work in Scotland. The fishing village here was called Terrytown, and is supposed to have been the Ptoroton of Ptolemy the geographer.

In summer, 1809 or 1810, while digging the foundations for new buildings on the eastern side, the workmen came to a stair of well-dressed free-stone, which induced them to follow it downwards,

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Castra Alata of the Romans; but Horsley says that Castra Alata has been generally taken for Edinburgh, but that in his opinion Tain, a royal borough in Ross-shire, on the northern side, on the Moray Frith, must really have been that station.

* Mr. Pinkerton, who has printed a portion of this letter in the advertisement prefixed to the second edition of his *Inquiry into the Early History of Scotland*, part vii. adds, that the Bull is the well-known badge of a Roman colony.

clearing away the rubbish as they went along, to the depth of about thirty or forty feet, when there was found at the bottom a square of about twelve feet, containing a foot or two of fresh water, having the appearance of a reservoir, either to catch rain from the clouds, or sea-water, freshened by filtering through the free-stone beneath. The four sides of this reservoir, which seemed a perfect square in its form, were very neatly covered with smooth lime-plaster to the height of eight or ten feet, and above appeared the opening through the natural rock quite up to the top: no spring of other water appeared within the fortress.

I find from Fordun, that King Duncan II. was killed by a Thane of the Mearns, or, as the older chronicle quoted by him says, "*a Mernensibus,*" by the people of the Mearns, "*apud Monathethyn, Monthethyn, vel Monythyne.*" Now, this place, from the mere similarity of name, Boece has most absurdly changed to Monteith, a district more than one hundred miles distant, as if the people of Mearns had travelled so far to commit this murder; for Duncan is not said to have been killed in battle, "*sed dolo avunculi.*" Buchanan and our other historians have blindly adopted this blunder of Boece. There are two charters in Mr. Robertson's Index, lately published, where this very name occurs as a barony in Mearns during the reign of David II. The first is in page 35, No. 22, "Charter to Walter Pitcairne of the barony of *Moneythin* in Vicecom. de Kincardin."—The other is at page 86, No. 206—"Carta confirm. donationis quam Duncanus Norri fecit Waltero de Pitcairne terrar. de

Moneyethyn in Baroniâ ejusd. in Vic. de Kincardyn, exceptis, &c. Apud Perth, 15 Decemb., anno regni 40." This place, therefore, now called *Mondynes*, is without doubt the same as that mentioned by Fordun, agreeing with it in every circumstance of orthography and local situation, and agreeing also with a charter quoted by Mr. Chalmers, which mentions that barony as bounded on three sides by Bervie Water.

But, as a further proof of the identity of these names, I have in my possession a retour dated in 1560, by which it appears that the same family of Pitcairne had continued to occupy this estate from the time of David II; for, among the jury on the inquest, is mentioned "Alexander Pitcairne de Mondynes." The evidence therefore of these being one and the same place, amounts, in my opinion, nearly to demonstration.

In a field near the high road at this place, there is also still to be seen a large, rude, upright stone without any carving or ornament, rising six or eight feet above ground, and evidently placed to mark some memorable occurrence, though there is no tradition concerning it.

REV. JAMES MILLER TO MR. PINKERTON.

Eussie, March 5th, 1814.

I received yours of February 28th; and, lest your six weeks should expire, and I should hinder any of your publishing operations, I lose no time in

giving you all that I have been able to gather about the romantic scenery on the Isla.*

Airly Castle, the ancient baronial residence of the Ogilvy family, is beautifully situated at the confluence of the Isla and Melgum. A modern house, of mean appearance, is built upon the ruins of the castle, which was burnt to the ground by the Earl of Argyle, in the year 1640. The Den of Airly, below the castle, is one of the finest things of the kind anywhere to be seen. The river forcing its way, for the distance of a mile, through a deep and narrow bed, the stupendous rocks, from one to two hundred feet high, finely clothed with ivy and brushwood, and the brink adorned with variegated and thriving plantations, form altogether one of the grandest scenes to be met with in Scotland. The *Loups of Kenny*, on the Melgum,

* "The Isla has its source in the Grampian Mountains, in the north-western part of the county of Angus, several miles northward from Mount Blair. Bathing the foot of that mountain, it turns eastward, traverses longitudinally the narrow valley of Glenisla, below which it forms a cascade called the Reeky Linn, upwards of thirty feet high. Afterwards, proceeding through a deep and rocky channel, it is augmented by two small streams at the base of a rocky peninsula, on which stand the ruins of Airly Castle, which was anciently a strong fortress, constructed at different periods, and demolished during the Commonwealth. Thence the Isla descends with rapidity into the plain, and runs southward near a pleasant seat, formerly called Ruthven, now Isla Bank. Suddenly changing the direction of its course to west-south-west, it slowly moves, in a winding passage, through a flat country, which it frequently inundates, receives the Ericht two miles north of Cupar, and falls into the Tay at Kinclavin."—*Beauties of Scotland*, IV. p. 222.

exhibit a succession of waterfalls of no mean appearance. But the Falls on the Isla, about two miles above the castle of Airly, far surpass any thing of the kind that is to be seen in this county. The Falls are seven in number, two of which chiefly merit attention. The *Slug*, or *Slough, of Achranny* is a cascade of sixty feet perpendicular height, forming, at the foot, a pool of such depth and magnitude as might be sufficient to contain and float a first-rate man-of-war. (This is probably the part of the river which Pennant miscalculates, when he states the depth as thirty fathoms: it is probable that the third part of his calculation would be nearer the truth.) On the very brink of this Fall, on the north side of the river, are yet to be seen the foundations of an ancient castle which belonged to Sir Allan Dorward, by an intermarriage with whose family the barony of Glentrathen came to the Ogilvies of Airly.

*The Reeky Linn,** so called from the ascending

* "Reeky Linn, three miles north of Alyth, and two from the famous hill of Barry, is one of the largest and most beautiful cascades of water in Scotland. The river Isla here darts over a precipice sixty feet in height. Through the violence of the fall the vapor is forced upwards in the air like smoke, or, as the Scotch term it, *reek*, from whence it has its name. For a considerable space along the course of the river, the rocks on each side rise one hundred feet, and the river itself, in several places, has been found thirty fathoms deep."—*Pennant's Tour in Scotland*, III. p. 456.—The difference between the height of the Reeky Linn, as stated by Mr. Pennant in the above extract and that given by Mr. Forsyth, p. 433, is very striking, and can only be reconciled on the supposition that one of these authors has erred through inadvertence. The height of the Corra Linn is estimated at near ninety feet.

vapor having the appearance of smoke, is about eighty feet high, nearly equal to the Corra Linn on the Clyde, which it resembles also in the appearance which the face of the fall represents; the waters tumbling with a mighty noise down a broken and inclined bed. The river is here very confined: the rocks rise about one hundred feet above the surface of the water, and in some places nearly meet. The nakedness of the banks, the darkness of the chasm, and the roaring of the torrent, fill the mind with feelings of danger and horror, whilst the magnificence and grandeur of the mighty falling torrent excite the most sublime emotions of admiration and surprise. The other five smaller falls may be from twenty to forty feet high: one of them in particular is very beautiful; the others are difficult of access, by reason of the narrowness of the channel and immense height of the confining rocks.

It would be very difficult for me to get a drawing of Martin's Stone and the other in the kirk-yard at Strik Martin, as I know of no person who could do it for me. The representation on Martin's Stone is exactly St. George and the Dragon: the other is a very rude representation of a face with a serpent fastened to each ear.

I shall be happy to collect the fragments of the ballads when I can get sufficient time, and send them to you when you begin to prepare your new edition. It will take some time to write them from the memory of the lady whom I have heard recite them.

I shall be glad to hear from you when you have

as much time; and, if I can assist you in any thing else, only let me know.

LORD GRENVILLE* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Dropmore, August 3d, 1814.

In turning over the volumes of Gibbon's Miscellaneous Works, I had often read with interest the

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* With this letter was sent the following

Proposal for the publication of the Ancient Historians of England, arranged in a regular chronological series, from the earliest accounts till the year 1500.

This grand national plan was projected by the late celebrated historian, Mr. Gibbon, in whose posthumous works, published by Lord Sheffield, an Address on this subject may be found. The writer of this paper might be accused of vanity, if he repeated the terms in which he is proposed by that eminent judge as the editor of this laborious and extensive design, and shall therefore only refer to the original.

The unexpected death of Mr. Gibbon, and the lengthened war of twenty-one years, during which the attention of those eminent characters who can alone promote and patronise such a work was necessarily directed to objects of a different nature, were the causes that this plan has been so long delayed and seemingly abandoned. But, as science always follows in the train of peace, it is hoped that a more favorable period has now arrived, and that among the monuments of triumph this may be dedicated to the glory of our ancestors.

The advantages of this design have been so ably illustrated by the luminous pen of Gibbon, that it would be presumptuous to tread the same ground. The sole intention in printing a hundred copies of this little memorial, not intended for the public eye,

paper to which you refer, and had much regretted that the design there announced had, for whatever

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is to inform such eminent persons as may choose to encourage such a design, that the editor proposed by Mr. Gibbon is still anxiously desirous to carry it into effect. Messrs. Longman & Co., booksellers, will receive names; but no money will be taken till a sufficient number has appeared to cover the expenses.

It may, however, be necessary to add some short illustrations; as Mr. Gibbon's Address was left imperfect. Without repeating that many foreign countries have long since instituted examples of this kind, as the French historians have been collected by Bouquet, the German by Leibnitz and others, the Italian by Muratori, and even the Danish by Langebek, it will be observed that our ancient chroniclers are scattered in various collections by Camden, Saville, Selden, Twysden, Gale, Hearne, &c. &c., of various merit and accuracy. These collections were besides published before historical criticism had made any progress, and before the vast researches of Ducange, Charpentier, and Adelung, not to mention others of less celebrity, had diffused much light on the language and manners of the middle ages. In this publication they will appear in a splendid and uniform chronological series, with necessary, but short, illustrations in the English language; for, after many conversations, this topic was decided by Mr. Gibbon, who was to have given a general introduction; and the loss of such a master-piece of historical criticism is ever to be regretted. The chief reason was, that, as many of our historical monuments are in Saxon, French, and English, the incongruity of Latin notes would have been greater, and the advantage universally less in the explanation of names and manners.

Our chronicles are not only scattered in different unequal collections, but often published with little care, and disgraced with many important errors and omissions, so that a new collation of all the editions and manuscripts is indispensable. One striking example may suffice. If we except the short but valuable ecclesiastical history of Bede and the life of Alfred, there is no English historian till after the year 1100, save the Saxon

cause, been relinquished. It affords me therefore a very real pleasure to learn that there is any

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Chronicle. Now this invaluable national document is so carelessly published by Gibson, that he has only used the two Oxford manuscripts, omitting those in the Cotton library, which would alone have supplied fifty additional pages, or nearly a quarter of his book. As the manuscripts differ in names and events, being kept in various parts of England, it would perhaps be preferable to publish two Saxon chronicles, while the approximate variations might appear in the notes.

In the typographical department, there cannot be a better model than the French historians by Bouquet; that is, in folio with double columns. It is supposed that eight or ten volumes will comprise the whole; and a volume might be published in two years successively. It would be eligible that each volume should, in some degree, be complete in itself, by extending to a notable period, or at least the end of a reign: thus, the first might extend to the Norman conquest. Some of the most genuine and important Saxon charters might be given in an appendix; for the manifest forgery of many published by Dugdale has been evinced by Germon in his treatises *De Re Diplomaticâ.*

It is not, however, proposed to follow the plan of Bouquet in dividing each history into several parts according to reigns and epochs, which rather embarrass than assist the reader. This plan also occasions suspicion of some omission or deficiency, not to mention the unclassical form and disrespect of the original writers. For our historians do not yield to those of any modern European country, as may be seen in the works of William of Malmesbury, Simeon of Durham, the Abbot of Peterborough, Walsingham, the ample and authentic Hoveden, and the undaunted veracity of Matthew Paris.

Of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries the historians are numerous: in the fourteenth century they begin to decline; and, of a considerable part of the fifteenth, 1422—1500, they are few and obscure. Any manuscript annals of this last period are of singular value; and no effort should be spared to recover them. It is to be regretted that this object did not meet with

prospect of its being resumed, especially in the hands of a person whom so good a judge had pronounced to be well qualified for the undertaking.

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proper attention on the revival of literature; for, if an historical fact perish, it is lost for ever.

The first volume, embracing the writers preceding the conquest, might be regarded as complete in itself. As in the edition of the French historians, it would commence with the accounts of the Greek and Roman authors collated with the best editions: Cæsar, for example, with the *editio princeps*, which has been too much neglected. Of Ptolemy's geography, published from a bad manuscript by Erasmus, valuable variations appear in the *Bibliotheca Coisliniana* of Montfaucon. Similar care might be shown in the extracts from Strabo, Tacitus, Herodian, the Panegyrists, Ammianus Marcellinus, Guido of Ravenna, &c. These would be followed by Gildas, Nennius, Beda, with the chronicle at the end collated with the Heidelberg edition, some passages of Alcuin, Eddius, Fredegod, Asserius, extracts from ancient lives of saints, the lives of Offa, Edward the Confessor, and Emma. This volume would close with the Saxon chronicles, laws, and charters.

More ample information may be found in the writer's address, which accompanies that of Mr. Gibbon in the last edition of his posthumous works by Lord Sheffield. Since 1792, our ancient literature has become a species of luxury; but the masculine and severe study of our early historians, worthy of statesmen, senators, and legislators, continues to be neglected. No successor of Gibbon, no name, "wherewith all Europe rings from side to side," has arisen to revive this most important and patriotic branch of science; yet, at this distance of time, (and what a period of history!) the following passage of that address may be applied with still more justice: "The rapid progress of bibliography, philology, and genuine criticism, has discovered in every country the many defects in former publications of early history. New libraries have arisen; more ample and authentic manuscripts have sometimes been found; greater industry, care, and exactness, are expected from an editor; more accuracy and elegance from typography. It is demanded,

The question which you propose to me, as to the probability of sufficient encouragement being afforded to a work, which, as you truly say, could not but be honorable to its protectors, and much more so, let me add, to the person who shall have the talents, knowledge, and industry to carry it through, I know not well how to answer. And I the rather hesitate, because I should have so much reason to reproach myself, if any erroneous conjecture of mine in that respect should have any influence in deciding you to devote unprofitably so much time and labor as such a task would require: unprofitably to yourself, I mean; for to the public it could not but be advantageous.

On this question booksellers and publishers are alone competent to advise. But what I can most readily answer for is my own desire to afford any assistance in the promotion of this undertaking, which it can in any manner be in my power to offer.

If you shall determine on undertaking it, I shall be very glad to hear further from you as to the course which you propose to pursue, and shall be anxious that you should point out to me any way in which I can assist you.

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that, amidst the exuberance of literary wealth which enriches an age of high civilization, the ancient historical monuments of a country which contain, as it were, all its preceding existence and experience, should appear with becoming splendor and dignity.

MR. ROSCOE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Allerton, August 30th, 1814.

My best thanks are due for your kind remembrance of me; and having now an opportunity, by two of my sons who are passing through the metropolis on their way to Paris, of availing myself of your liberality in obtaining the medal which you mentioned to me of Bonaparte, I will trouble you to consign it to them to be forwarded to me, and have charged them to convey to you my sincere acknowledgements.

Our projected institution * seems likely to flourish: upwards of 21,000*l.* is now subscribed, and we have hopes of extending it to 30,000*l.* We are just printing a detailed plan; and, if I can procure a copy before my sons set out, I will send it; and if any thing occurs to you on the perusal, I shall esteem myself obliged by your remarks.

My friend, Shepherd, is returned from Paris, highly delighted with his excursion; and I find he intends to publish a journal of it, as well as of

* The Liverpool Royal Institution here alluded to was not opened till November 1817: on that occasion a speech was delivered by Mr. Roscoe, which has subsequently appeared in print; and though, from its local character, it has obtained only a partial circulation, so enlightened, comprehensive and excellent are the views it takes of the advantages of education and of the benefits conferred by the arts and sciences on a commercial country, that it eminently deserves a place in every well-selected library, and particularly every public library in England.

his former visit in 1802. I know so well the importance of your recommendations to him, that I am almost tempted to intrude on you so far as to request a line to some of your literary friends at Paris on behalf of my sons, who are going there without a single acquaintance, and who will not, I hope, discredit your interference for them. If, however, this should not be convenient, I hope you will dismiss the request with the same freedom that I have ventured to make it.

I fear you will begin to think that on your last journey into Lancashire you made a very troublesome acquaintance. I will, however, dismiss apologies, to join you in the wish that a greater degree of harmony and good-will subsisted amongst literary men, who are generally moving off from, or congregating against, each other, in opposite directions. I believe the best way to promote this, is to follow our own inclinations and pursuits, without troubling ourselves with what others may say about us. The time spent in controversy is worse than lost; and, after all, the public will take the liberty of judging for itself. Perhaps the most able defence that ever was made was that of Mr. Gibbon; and yet I believe his history would have stood just as high if such a defence had never been written.

I shall not be inattentive to your hints about our roads, although I have little hope of convincing my neighbors either of the disgrace of their continuance, or the necessity of their improvement. To jolt over a good hard pavement is considered in Lancashire the perfection of travelling.

I shall be happy in any opportunity of showing how truly sensible I am of your kindness.

SIR WILLIAM OUSELEY TO MR. PINKERTON.

Crickhowell, Sept. 5th, 1814.

This morning's post brought me your letter, which, as appears from its date, I might have received much sooner. I regret exceedingly that it was not my good fortune to meet you during my last short residence in London; but a person who seemed to speak with certainty assured me that you were then on the continent, and I desisted from further inquiry. I hope, however, to be more lucky on a future and not very remote occasion. My brother, who probably is now near St. Petersburgh, expects to be in England about the end of October, or early in November; and I shall hasten to receive him in town.

He has, you may be persuaded, taken due vengeance on the murderers of our worthy friend, Browne.* This I infer from the unrelenting per-

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* Whether this intention on the part of Sir Gore Ouseley was ever executed I do not know; but Mr. Browne is a man whose letters have added so much to the interest of these volumes, that I trust no apology can be necessary for inserting the following account of his tragical end; especially as the work from which it is extracted is one of such price as must always render it inaccessible to the great mass of readers:

"Mr. Browne was a man of indefatigable research; with a

severance with which he always insisted on the punishment of such Persians as ever in the slight-

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persevering industry in acquiring the means of pursuing his object, equal to the enterprising spirit with which he breasted every difficulty in his way. Previously to his going to Persia, he had stopped some time in Constantinople to perfect himself in the Turkish language; and, before he left that city, he spoke it like a native. From a mistaken idea of facilitating his progress among the different Asiatic nations through which he might have occasion to pass, in the route he had laid down for himself, he assumed the Turkish dress. Being thus equipped, he set forward with a view to penetrate through Khorasan, and thence visit the unexplored and dangerous regions south of the Caspian, closing his researches in that direction at Astrakhan. During the early part of his Persian journey, he had a conference with his Britannic Majesty's ambassador, Sir Gore Ouseley, and at Oujon was admitted to an audience of the Persian king. So little was danger from attacks of any kind apprehended by the persons best acquainted with the state of the country, that no difficulties whatever were suggested as likely to meet him; and accordingly he proceeded in full confidence. Having reached the pass of Irak, he stopped at the caravansary to take a little refreshment. That over, he remounted his horse, and leaving his servant to pack up the articles he had been using and then follow him, he rode gently forward along the mountains. Mr. Browne had scarcely proceeded half a mile, when suddenly two men on foot came up close behind him; one of whom, with a blow from a club, before he was aware, struck him senseless from his horse. Several other villains at the same instant sprung from hollows in the hills, and bound him hand and foot. At this moment they offered him no further personal violence; but, as soon as he had recovered from the stupor occasioned by the first mode of attack, he looked round and saw the robbers plundering both his baggage and his servant, the man having come forward on the road in obedience to the commands of his master. When the depredators found their victim restored to observation, they told him it was their intention to put an end to his life, but

est degree insulted an Englishman, or indeed any European who applied to him for redress. Browne besides was a man who, I know, stood personally high in my brother's esteem. The tribe to which

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that was not the place where the final stroke should be made. Mr. Browne, incapable of resistance, calmly listened to his own sentence, but intreated them to spare his poor servant, and allow him to depart with his papers, which could be of no use to them. All this they granted; and, what may appear still more extraordinary, these ferocious brigands, to whom the acquisition of arms must be as the staff of life, made the man a present of his master's pistols and double-barrelled gun; but they were English, and the marks might have betrayed the new possessors. These singular robbers then permitted Mr. Browne to see his servant safe out of sight before they laid farther hands on himself; after which they carried him and the property they had reserved for themselves into a valley on the opposite side of the Kizzilouzan, and without farther parley terminated his existence, it is supposed, by strangulation. They stripped his corpse of every part of its raiment, and then left it on the open ground, a prey to wolves and other wild animals. The servant meanwhile made the best of his way towards Tabreez, where he related the tale I have just told.

"Abbas Mirza immediately dispatched several parties of horsemen; some into the pass of the caravansary to search its neighborhood, and others towards the spot where the circumstantial details of the man, repeating what he had heard pass between the murderers, made it likely that Mr. Browne was to receive the fatal blow. After diligent search, the body was found in the latter place, in the condition I have described, and by the prince's orders brought carefully to Akhaud and buried with decency. His Royal Highness made every exertion to discover the perpetrators of this nefarious deed; but to this moment the individuals remain unknown, though hardly a doubt exists that the people who committed it were part of some roving and desperate band of Kurds, who could not resist the temptation of an almost solitary traveller."—*Sir R. K. Porter's Travels in Georgia*, &c., I. p. 268.

the murderers belonged is, I believe, well known; and the scene of their atrocity was, as I have heard, not far from that bridge of which Mr. Morier has given a view in his Travels, p. 267; a most romantic spot, where I halted for an hour or two in June 1812; but the accounts which have yet reached me are very imperfect.

I have long since resolved never to lay any of my learned friends under literary contribution: yet be assured, my dear Sir, that for your obliging offer of advice and assistance I am most truly grateful.

My *Travels*, although I endeavor to repress and compress, are swelling to an alarming bulk. In notes taken on the spot of six or seven lines, I find materials for as many pages. Where all this will end I know not, but certainly the work will not be ready for the press before a year; nor can it be comprised in less than two large quartos. For these I must not claim mercy as *les péchés de ma jeunesse*; but my excuse must be the vast extent of tract, and the variety of countries through which I travelled. In going out we visited Madeira, Rio de Janeiro, Tristan da Cunha, Ceylon, Cochin and Bombay, then the islands of the Persian Gulf, and terminated our voyage at Bushehr. We then proceeded to Shiraz, whence (with a view to my half-finished work on Alexander) I made an excursion to Darabghierd, near the borders of Carmania; and I sought among the ruins of Pasargada (or Pasagorda) for the tomb of Cyrus, and returned to Shiraz by way of Persepolis. This, the Hindoo excavations at Elephanta, and

Constantinople, are among a thousand extraordinary objects that equalled (I may say surpassed) the idea which I had formed of them. From Shiraz we proceeded to Ispahan, and there occupied a royal palace and garden for three months: we then went on through Com and Cashan to Tehran, now the king's residence, whence, after three months, I again detached myself from the embassy, and traced the route of Alexander (as I believe) through the *Pylæ Caspiæ* and the forests of Hyrcania to *Sari*, the ancient Zadracarta, and visited Ashroff, Balforush, Amol, and other places on the Caspian Sea; along the shore, and indeed in the very waters of which, I rode many a mile on the fine soft sand, smooth as any carpet. I returned to Tehran by way of Damavand, a town at the foot of a mountain that may be reckoned among the most stupendous of the world.

On this excursion, as on the former to Pasargada, I was the only European of the party; but I had good servants, guards, and guides, and travelled with the protection of a royal firman. From Tehran I accompanied the embassy to Tabreez, passing through Cazvin, Sultaniah, &c.; and on the 1st of July, 1812, I set out from Tabreez with a Tartar courier, and proceeded to old Julpha, on the Araxes, which I had crossed, to Nakhjevan, by Mount Ararat to Erivan, the three churches, &c., and so on through Armenia to Kars. Here the Turkish Pacha gave me guards on to Arzeroom: a little beyond this I bathed in the Euphrates, then pursued my wearisome journey, changing horses every twenty or thirty miles, to Tokat,

Amasia, Isnikmid (Nicomedia), &c. to Constantinople, having, for the last thirteen or fourteen stages, found the plague at every village. In Constantinople it raged with uncommon fury; and the day I arrived there fifteen hundred persons died. There, however, I remained twelve days; then crossed over to the Asiatic side, and proceeded by land through Magnesia to Smyrna. Here again was the plague; but, after a week's stay, I went on board an English frigate, the Salsette, and after a delightful visit to Scio and a most classical navigation among the other Greek islands, we coasted along Sicily, had a peep at Malta, went in to the grand fleet off Toulon, where I dined with Sir Edward Pellew in that wonderful ship, the Caledonia, and got leave to proceed to England. On my way I saw Sardinia and Minorca, Majorca, &c., and landed at Alicant, passed over to the African coast, was becalmed there, landed at Tetuan, and at last anchored at Gibraltar. There I staid almost two days, then sailed, and at length arrived at Portsmouth, closing our voyage by taking a French privateer of sixteen guns.

During this *trip*, including the four quarters of the globe, I never had one hour's illness: every other member of the embassy suffered extremely from the heat, particularly at Shiraz. The thermometer was sometimes 110°. This *trip* has furnished me with at least three hundred drawings and sketches, besides maps of my particular excursions, as accurate as a watch and compass could make them. I have picked up many valu-

able manuscripts, coins, gems, inscriptions, sculpture, figures, &c.: all these must serve as an excuse for being voluminous. A mere dry list of the stages and distances of places through which I passed fills a good deal of paper, as you (better than any one else) can believe.

THE EARL OF SHEFFIELD* TO MR. PINKERTON.

Sheffield Place, Sept. 26th, 1814.

* I am now engaged in the publication of a very much enlarged edition of Mr. Gibbon's Miscellaneous Works, and of course shall republish the Address,† which mentions you as a person well

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* John Baker Holroyd, first created Baron Sheffield in 1802, and Earl of Sheffield in Ireland, 1816. He died in 1821.

† This Address, which is printed in the quarto edition of Gibbon's Miscellaneous Works, II. p. 707, is of too great length to be here inserted; and I regret that it is so, as it is a beautiful piece of composition, and gives, in a comparatively short space, an admirable view of the principal requisites for an edition of the great body of early English history, now so fortunately undertaken by the man who above all others is, by his talents, his industry, and his acquirements, best fitted for the task, my friend, Mr. Petrie. At the same time, however, that I cannot embody in this work the whole address, I feel that I should be guilty of gross injustice to the memory of Mr. Pinkerton, were I to omit the following extract, in which such honorable mention is made of him. *Laudari a laudato* is what every one knows to be valuable.

qualified to collect the later memorials of the middle ages. The Address is imperfect, as it does

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After speaking of the difficulty of meeting with an editor for such a work, Mr. Gibbon proceeds to say:—"The age of Herculean diligence, which could devour and digest whole libraries, is passed away; and I sat down in hopeless despondency till I should be able to find a person endowed with proper qualifications, and ready to employ several years of his life in assiduous labor, without any splendid prospect of emolument or fame.

"The man is at length found; and I now renew the proposal in a higher tone of confidence. The name of this editor is Mr. John Pinkerton; but, as that name may provoke some resentments and revive some prejudices, it is incumbent on me, for his reputation, to explain my sentiments without reserve; and I have the satisfaction of knowing that he will not be displeased with the freedom and sincerity of a friend. The impulse of a vigorous mind urged him, at an early age, to write and to print, before his taste and his judgment had attained to their maturity. His ignorance of the world, the love of paradox, and the warmth of his temper, betrayed him into some improprieties; and those juvenile sallies, which candor will excuse, he is the first to condemn, and will perhaps be the last to forget. Repentance has long since propitiated the mild divinity of Virgil, against whom the rash youth, under a fictitious name, had darted the javelin of criticism. He smiles at his reformation of our English tongue, and is ready to confess that in all popular institutions the laws of custom must be obeyed by reason herself. The Goths still continue to be his chosen people; but he retains no antipathy to a Celtic savage; and, without renouncing his opinions and arguments, he sincerely laments that those literary arguments have ever been embittered, and perhaps enfeebled, by an indiscreet mixture of anger and contempt. By some explosions of this kind the volatile and fiery particles of his nature have been discharged, and there remains a pure and solid substance, endowed with many active and useful energies. His recent publication, a Treatise on Medals, and the Edition of the early Scotch Poets, discover a mind replete with a variety of knowledge, and inclined to every liberal pur-

not give any details of the plan he recommends. You possibly may have some letters of his on that

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suit; but his decided propensity, such a propensity as made Bentley a critic and Rennel a geographer, attracts him to the study of the history and antiquities of Great Britain; and he is well qualified for this study by a spirit of criticism, acute, discerning, and suspicious. His edition of the original Lives of the Scottish Saints has scattered some rays of light over the darkest age of a dark country: since there are so many circumstances in which the most daring legendary will not attempt to remove the well-known landmarks of truth. His Dissertation on the Origin of the Goths, with the Antiquities of Scotland, are in my opinion elaborate and satisfactory works; and, were this a convenient place, I would gladly enumerate the important questions in which he has rectified my old opinions concerning the migrations of the Scythic or German nation from the neighborhood of the Caspian and the Euxine to Scandinavia, the eastern coasts of Britain, and the shores of the Atlantic Ocean. He has since undertaken to illustrate a more interesting period of the history of Scotland: his materials are chiefly drawn from papers in the British Museum; and a skilful judge has assured me, after a perusal of the manuscript, that it contains more new and authentic information than could fairly be expected from a writer of the eighteenth century. A Scotchman by birth, Mr. Pinkerton is equally disposed, and even anxious, to illustrate the History of England: he had long, without my knowledge, entertained a project similar to my own: his twelve letters, under a fictitious signature, in the Gentleman's Magazine (1788) display the zeal of a patriot and the learning of an antiquarian. As soon as he was informed, by Mr. Nicol the bookseller, of my wishes and choice, he advanced to meet me with the generous ardor of a volunteer, conscious of his strength, desirous of exercise, and careless of reward: we have discussed, in several conversations, every material point that relates to the general plan and arrangement of the work; and I can only complain of his excessive docility to the opinions of a man much less skilled in the subject than himself. Should it be objected that such a work will surpass

subject, or may be able to give me some particulars of what you and he proposed on the occasion, which may be inserted in the new publication. I have printed in the new edition your letter to Mr. Gibbon, 23d July, 1793, and his answer to you of the 25th July. I shall order the new edition, 5 vols. in 8vo, to be reserved for you; and I flatter myself you will find the addition, which is upward of a third, fully equal to what has been already published. There is a considerable number of notes added to the Memoir, and other matter interwoven with it. And also many new letters, which will not be in the additional quarto volume. The last pages of the fifth volume are now at the press; and it is necessary I should have immediately whatever you have to add.

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the powers of a single man, and that industry is best promoted by a division of labor, I must answer, that Mr. Pinkerton seems one of the children of those heroes whose race is almost extinct; that hard assiduous study is the sole amusement of his independent leisure; that his warm inclination will be quickened by the sense of a duty resting solely on himself; and that he is now in the vigor of age and health; and that the most voluminous of our historical collections was the most speedily finished by the diligence of Muratori alone. I must add, that I know not where to seek an associate; that the operations of a society are often perplexed by the division of sentiments and characters, and often retarded by the degrees of talent and application; and that the editor will be always ready to receive the advice of judicious counsellors, and to employ the hand of subordinate workmen "

THE EARL OF SHEFFIELD TO MR. PINKERTON.

Wroxton Abbey, Oct. 5th, 1814.

I am very glad to find that you can furnish so much useful explanation in addition for the historical articles in the very much enlarged new edition of Mr. Gibbon's Miscellaneous Works. Four volumes are already printed, and very nearly the fifth: the Address is the last article in the third volume, and any thing you will be so good as to supply may be added in an Appendix.

Do you think it will be advisable to publish the twelve letters you allude to in the Gentleman's Magazine? I flatter myself that you will make out an article extremely interesting, and which will bring forward again the subject of a collection of at least the *Rerum Anglicanarum Scriptores.* The more we can bring forward Gibbon's notions and opinions on the subject, the better. I shall like also very much to introduce the very striking passage in your letter just before me, discriminating on the characters of Gibbon, Hume, and Robertson. I shall be very thankful for whatever you can supply as soon as convenient to you; as the printing is very nearly concluded, and there will be no difficulty in introducing as much as you please, as it may be added at the end of a volume.

The weakness of my eyes obliges me to employ a secretary.

LORD GRENVILLE TO MR. PINKERTON.

Dropmore, Oct. 11th, 1814.

I have delayed answering your letter until I could myself give some consideration to the subject, and have an opportunity of some, though hitherto a very limited, communication respecting it.

What now seems to me as most practicable for the encouragement of this work I will state to you for your consideration. You will see whether you think it affords a prospect sufficiently favorable to induce you to embark in an undertaking of so much labor.

I would propose that you should print the prospectus as Mr. Longman suggests, inserting subscribers, and undertaking that the work shall be proceeded in, and the first volume delivered in two years, provided that two hundred and fifty subscriptions shall have been obtained; but that this undertaking shall also be subject to the success of the following plan, in the promotion of which I should be happy to assist, as far as my exertions could extend. It is, that, as a mode of personal remuneration to yourself for the labor of editing the work, twenty-five copies more should be printed in some larger form or on some superior paper, (to be confined to those copies only,) and that a list of subscribers should be procured for these at the rate of 20*l.* each; 10*l.* of which might be paid on subscription, and the other 10*l.* on the delivery of the first volume.

A list of nearly half that number I think I could already answer for; and I have very little doubt that it might be completed with no great exertion, if the plan should be acceptable to you.

It is true that this provides only for the publication of the first volume; but, if that be completed, as there is no doubt it would be in a satisfactory manner, similar arrangements for the further continuance of the work would follow with increased facility. I am not acquainted with Bouquet's work, the form of which you propose to imitate in printing; and of these matters Mr. Longman must be the best judge. But my own wish certainly would be, that the form and outward appearance of this work should, if it be practicable, be made to correspond with the magnitude and splendor of the design.

I shall receive with great pleasure the volume which you are so good as to offer me, and shall be glad to peruse the Memoirs you mention.

The above ideas are thrown out, as I have already mentioned, for your consideration. Any difficulty that may occur to you upon them, or any alteration that you may wish to make, you will, I hope, propose without scruple.

MR. T. N. LONGMAN TO MR. PINKERTON.

Paternoster Row, Oct. 24th, 1814.

My partners having all returned home, I have been consulting them concerning the historical

work; and I am sorry to tell you that, notwithstanding the powerful encouragement of Lord Grenville, they foresee so much trouble, without a hope of filling a sufficient subscription, that they have decided upon declining to engage with you. As the trouble would wholly rest with them, and success would greatly depend upon confidence in it, I have thought it unadvisable to urge the matter further. Your papers are inclosed.

Disappointed in this quarter, Mr. Pinkerton, as his last resource, addressed the following Memorial to the highest personage in the state; but it does not appear, from the papers in my possession, to have even been noticed with an answer:

To His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, the Memorial of John Pinkerton

Most humbly showeth,

That the late celebrated Mr. Gibbon had projected, in conjunction with the memorialist, the publication of all the ancient English historians in one regular series, they being now scattered in various dissimilar collections.

That most European countries have long since published, on a magnificent scale, the monuments of their national history, as patriotic tributes of glory to the memory of their ancestors.

That this great work has hitherto been delayed; as the long war, now happily closed by the triumph

of England, under the auspicious sway of His Royal Highness, prevented the attention of those illustrious persons who can alone encourage such an expensive plan.

That the memorialist has been again excited, by some eminent judges, to resume this laborious enterprise, but is anxious in the first place to obtain the protection of His Royal Highness, to whom it should most properly be dedicated.

That this compilation will extend to eight or ten volumes in folio, to be successively published every two years, and printed with a splendor worthy of its dignity.

That in Italy, Germany, France, and Denmark, such national collections have appeared at the expense of the governments; but, trusting to the public spirit, it is believed that the present will be defrayed by the subscriptions of the opulent and eminent.

That His Royal Highness would deign to grant his subscription and protection to this national design, is the humble petition of the memorialist, who fervently prays for his prosperity and glory.

THE REV. DR. INGRAM TO MR. PINKERTON.

Trinity College, Oxford,
November 26th, 1814.

I am much obliged to you for the fac-simile of the inscription and sculpture on the stones of Pitmachie, near Aberdeen. The figures appear to

agree with some of those described and engraved in Gordon's *Itinerarium Septentrionale;* but the letters seem to be much more ancient than the date assigned to most of those monuments of a similar kind, which he has attempted to explain towards the end of his work.

He has ascribed those monuments to the Danes which have any inscriptions on them; by which I conclude he means to imply that they were erected about the time of the Danish invasions. The others, without inscriptions, he assigns to the Scots and Picts. This distinction is made on the authority of Bishop Nicholson, a great name in antiquities no doubt; but these general rules must be received with caution; and, in the present instance, such a confined view of the matter seems by no means satisfactory.

The characters, as Mr. Lizars has engraved them, resemble the Phœnician and the old Pelasgic Greek more than the Runic or any that were used by the Danes and Saxons; and the figures, which are probably coeval with them, have something of an Oriental or Egyptian feature of hieroglyphical obscurity. The old serpent, which I suspect to be the same that good Alexander Gordon mistook for an eel, is weighed in the balance and found wanting; whilst the sun and moon, connected by a mysterious chain, perform their regular and appointed course over his head, and, as represented in another place, accelerate the productions of the animal and vegetable kingdoms.

These are at present vague imaginations, mere

phantoms; and I confess myself unequal to the task of offering the slightest interpretation of the inscriptions, particularly as characters, when engraved or represented on paper, differ so much in general from their appearance on actual inspection.

MR. COUTTS TO MR. PINKERTON.

Strand, January 31st, 1815.

I have received the favor of your letter, asking me to withdraw the claim for interest on the sum I lent on the security of a house; but the footing upon which you have put the request is one I have uniformly at all times thought to be such as I ought to reject, and have rejected accordingly. The bankers in Scotland, and the country banks in England, are on a different plan from those of London. They circulate their own notes, and make payments in them: we give out no notes of our own, and, if we were to give interest at even one per cent. per annum, we should be losers by our business.

We do not consider ourselves as being obliged to any one person who places money in our hands, however considerable: it is to the aggregate and general mass of society that we owe our situation, and to the credit our prudence and attention has obtained for us; and people deposit their money in our hands for their own advantage and con-

veniency, not from favor to us; nor do we desire to have it on any other terms.

Probably you may not understand the explanation I have spent time in making, which I can very ill spare, and it may therefore answer no purpose; but it satisfies myself; and I wish to show equal attention to all my employers, whether they have large or small sums in my hands, which indeed hardly ever occupies my attention.

My attention is fully engrossed in doing business with honor and regularity, leaving the rest to the common chance and course of things. It surprises me that, though it every day appears that there is very little truth published in the newspapers, yet people will still believe what they read, especially abuse, or what they think is against the character or prudence of the person treated of. I saw some paragraphs and heard of more of what I had done for Mr. Kean, in all which there was not a word of truth; though I see no reason why I might not, without offence to any one, have given Mr. Kean any thing I pleased. In doing any little matter in my power for any individual, I must add I never had any view to celebrity with the present age or with posterity.

If I should know of any gentleman wanting a travelling companion abroad, I shall mention you to him; but it seldom happens that I am applied to in such matters.

INDEX.

ABRIDGEMENT to *Pinkerton's Geography* soon to be paid for, ii. 206
Advocates' Library, state of the manuscripts in it in 1790, i. 250, (note.)
Agnew, Mr. Robert Vans, letter from, ii. 210
Agricola, place of his last battle with Galgacus, ii. 419, (note.)
Aikin, Dr. letter from, ii. 147
Aikin, Mr. Arthur, letters from, ii. 188, 229, 236
———, his critiques on Pinkerton's *New Arrangement of Mineralogy*, ii. 188
Airly Castle, its situation, ii. 433
Airly, Den of, described, ii. 433
Alberti, some account of his *Philodoxeos*, ii. 256, (note.)
Aldus, passage from, respecting the mark of the red rose on Crichton's face, ii. 422
Alexander III. of Scotland, all Scotch portraits anterior to him imaginary, ii. 108
Alexandria, population of, i. 290
Alfred, a poem attributed to, containing an account of his tour in Ireland, ii. 138
Allen, Mr. John, letter from, ii. 361
Ancram, Lady, letters from, ii. 90, 193
Anderson, extracts from his notes of papers in the Paper Office, ii. 152
———, Dr. James, letters from, i. 283, 291
———, his opinion of the Scotch, i. 284; his plan for a national repository of all printed papers, i. 291, 304; his opinion of Horace Walpole, 305; as to the rearing of silk-worms, 306.
———, Dr. John, letters from, i. 188, 193, 205
———, Mr. pamphlet by him against Pinkerton, ii. 24
Angus, county of, many sculptured stones in, ii. 412, (note.)
Anne of Denmark, her part in the Gowrie conspiracy, ii. 81, (note.)
Ancient Scottish Poems, by Lord Hailes, i. 33

Antimony, a mine of it worked in Dumfries-shire, ii. 321
Arbuthnot, Church at, plate of, ii. 420
———, some particulars respecting, ii. 420, (note.)
Arbuthnot, Alexander, built the aisle to the church at Arbuthnot, ii. 420, (note.)
Argillite, full of shells, found at the summit of Snowdon, ii. 230
Argonautics of A. Rhodius, translated by Preston, ii. 258
Argyle, Marquis of, portrait at Newbottle House, ii. 33
Aristophanes, passage in, elucidated, i. 218
Armstrong, General, unpopular in America, ii. 348
Astle, Mr. letters from, i. 93, 275, 309, 337
Atlas, hints for the improvement of an, ii. 364
Augustus III., king of Poland, his character, ii. 289
Auldbar, sculptured stones at, described, ii. 412, (note.)
Ayre, Mr. his translation of Maffei's *Merope*, ii. 29

Balfour, Sir James, date of his death not mentioned by Sibbald, i. 377
Ballads, plan for publishing a collection of, i. 29
Banks, Sir Joseph, letters from, i. 166, 336, 380. ii. 69, 359
———, his opinion of Mr. Browne, ii. 69
Barbour, some account of, i. 81; his poems, manuscript of in the Advocates' Library, i. 96; Lord Hailes' opinion of, i. 105; Messrs. Morison's proposed edition of, i. 157; the question of the antiquity of rhyme discussed in the preface to Mr. Pinkerton's edition, ii. 99
Basaltic columns, remarkable at Garve Island, ii. 378
Battle of Crevant, in 1422, fatal to the Scotch, i. 171, (note.)
——— of Herrings, in 1428, why so called, i. 171, (note.)
Beaton, Cardinal, his portrait in Pennant's Scotch Tour not genuine, i. 402; the only authentic portrait of, in the possession of Mr. Beaton of Balfour, ii. 75
Beattie, Dr. letters from, i. 1, 2, 7, 11, 21, 34, 81, 234
———, opinion of Pinkerton's poem on Craigmillar Castle, i. 1; state of his health, i. 2; his remarks on Pinkerton's poetry, i. 3; his opinion of Dr. Percy, 7; of Scotch poetry, 8; on the Sapphic rhythm, 12; engaged in printing his *Dissertations*, 22; his opinion of Pinkerton's *Rimes*, ib.; information from him respecting Barbour, 81; his opinion of Pinkerton's *Inquiry into the early History of Scotland*, 235
Beddoes, Thomas, M. D. letter from, ii. 19
Belenus, a deity worshipped in Armorica, ii. 243; mentioned by Ausonius, ii. 245, (note.)
Beregonium, some account of, ii. 182, (note.) and 183
Berkeley, Mr. letter from, i. 151
Bernera, no amianthus at, ii. 371
Bill, heads of a, for a repository for all printed papers in London, i. 292

Black, Rev. John, letter from, ii. 422
Black lead from Ayrshire, harder than the English, ii. 192
Boece, Hector, the original author of the *History of James II.*, i. 296; his portrait at Aberdeen not genuine, 418; his error as to Monteith, ii. 431
Bohomolec, a Polish playwriter, ii. 298
Boileau, his character drawn by H. Walpole, i. 74
Bollandists, probably only one copy of their work in England, i. 342
Bouquet, his publication of the French Historians, ii. 438, (note.)
Breadalbane, Earl of, letter from, i. 410
Brecchi, a term for the trousers worn by the Irish in 1180, i. 405
Breccia, mountains about Oban composed of, ii. 175
Breeches, first worn by Louis XIII., i. 407
Browne, Mr. W. G. letters from, i. 288, 310, 323. ii. 39, 43, 45, 62, 69, 71, 76, 85, 125, 178, 201, 331
———, his voyage to Alexdria, i. 289; his opinion of Ledyard, 290; his intention to visit Abyssinia, 291; account of his journey to Siwa, in quest of the temple of Jupiter Ammon, 310; his attempt to trace the canal which united the Nile with the Red Sea, 323; report of his assassination at Kous, 324; his return from Africa, ii. 36; his bargain with the publishers of his Travels, 39 and 43; appearance of his Travels, 77; difference with Mr. Pinkerton, 178; journey to Constantinople, 201; projects a work on Sicily, 331; particulars of his death, 443, (note.)
Bruce, James, the traveller, Mr. Pinkerton's opinion of, ii. 335, (note.)
———, Robert, his supposed watch an imposition, i. 194
Brunetto Latini, his letters in the Monthly Magazine a forgery, ii. 236
Brydone, not sufficiently cautious in mentioning his friends in his Travels, ii. 333, (note.)
Buchan, Earl of, letters from, i. 235, 246, 249, 252, 257. ii. 73
———, obtains for Mr. Pinkerton a transcript of Barbour's poems, i. 164; his opinion of Mr. Pinkerton's *Inquiry into the early History of Scotland*, 236; purposes to publish *Winton's Chronicle*, 249; assistance rendered by him to the *Iconographia Scotica*, 271, (note); projects an *Essay on the Life and Writings of Copernicus*, 345; thinks of removing to America, 354; style and value of his drawings of portraits, 374
Buchanan, a portrait of, at Dunrobin, ii. 367
———, J. L. his work against Mr. Pinkerton, i. 350
Bull, figure of, the badge of a Roman colony, ii. 430, (note.)
Burgh-head, description of, ii. 430; probably the *Castra alata* of the Romans, 429, (note.)

Burns, Dr. Currie's edition of, Mr. J. C. Walker's opinion of, ii. 187
Bute, Lord, letters from, ii. 113, 124
Butler, Mr. letters from, i. 341, ii. 214
———, advises Mr. Pinkerton as to the publication of the *Early English Historians*, and points out how such works are patronised in France, i. 341

Cadell and Davies, letters from, ii. 206, 251, 317, 387
Caen, originally a Saxon settlement, ii. 240
Caledonian records, not preserved at Iona, i. 119
Calernish, a circle of stones and Picts' house at, ii. 370
Campbell, Alexander, his *History of Scotch Poetry*, ii. 94
———, Lord Frederick, letter from, ii. 424
———, plans a new edition of all the Scottish Acts from the Records, i. 322
———, Dr. Thomas, letters from, i. 144, 178
———, engaged in refuting Vallancey's theories on Irish history, i. 147; projects writing a History of the Revolutions of Ireland, 179; his death, i. 390
Capital, meaning of the term in the old statutes, i. 393
Carbry Riada, the first Scotch king who made a settlement in Ireland, i. 155
Cardonnel, Mr. A. de, letters from, i. 147, 150
———, particulars of Sir D. Lindsay's Satire, i. 148
Celts, probably so called from wearing the kilt, i. 230
Chalmers, Mr. George, letter from, i. 242
Charlemont, Lord, an admirer of *Heron's Letters*, ii. 8
Chapman, Mr. preparing a map of the Isle of Lewis, ii. 370
Chronicon Rythmicum, Dr. Lorimer's opinion of, i. 181
Cloisters at Westminster, list of the papers in, concerning James III. IV. and V. of Scotland, i. 249, (note.)
Coal, the largest untouched field of, in Europe, is in Scotland, ii. 321
Coins, list of those of the French Republic, ii. 224
Colomesius, some account of, ii. 423, (note.)
Colville, the reformer, his portrait, and some account of, ii. 101
Complainte of Scotland, written by Wedderburn, i. 103
Comptroller's accounts in Scotland, the earliest about 1512, ii. 23
Concressault, lands at, given to Sir John Stuart of Darnley, i. 358
Constable, Mr. letter from, i. 400
Copernicus, Lord Buchan projects an Essay on his Life and Writings, i. 345
Consumption, as to its relative frequency at different æras, ii. 19
Corraro, Gregorio, some account of his *Progne*, ii. 256, (note.)
Coryton, near Edinburgh, no such place as, ii. 134
Cottonian Library, mode of reference to, ii. 114
Coutts, Mr. Thomas, letter from, ii. 459

Cowley, remarks on, by H. Walpole, i. 74
Crackars, a name given to pikes of shoes, i. 395
Craigmillar Castle, Elegy on, Dr. Beattie's opinion of, i. 1
Crawfurd, Mr. Thomas, author of an elegy attributed to Smollett, i. 106
Crichton, mark of a red rose on his face, ii. 422
Critical Review, Dr. Percy's answer to objections in, i. 355
Cromwell, anecdotes of, i. 188
Crotoni, the same as the Irish *Cruitne*, i. 111
Cruitne, the same as the *Crotoni* of Italy, i. 111.
Cullen House, two remarkable pictures by Jameson at, ii. 21
Cumberhead mine, peculiarities of, ii. 192

Dalmaik, foundation of ancient circular buildings at, ii. 428
Dalrymple, Sir David, see *Lord Hailes*
Danish or Norwegian History, no written monuments of, before A. D. 900, i. 119
Darnley, description of his portrait at Newbottle, ii. 110; many genuine effeminate portraits of him, 115
Davidson, Mr. letters from, i. 121, 321
———, his opinion of Pinkerton's historical labors, i. 121; his opinion of the portraits of Mary, Queen of Scots, ii. 14, (note.)
De Borch, M. J. his Natural History of Sicily of doubtful authenticity, ii. 332
De la Croix, M. writes an excellent introduction to the French translation of Pinkerton's Geography, ii. 317
De la Rue, l'Abbé, letter from, ii. 238
Dempster, George, M. P. letters from, i. 218, 219, 222, 230, 238, ii. 408, 415
———, his elucidation of a passage in Aristophanes, i. 218; his opinion of Switzerland, and of Whigs and Tories, i. 240
Denmark, constitution of, improved by the Prince Royal, i. 274
Denon, interests himself with Napoleon to buy Colonel Gordon's manuscripts, ii. 307, (note.)
Dilly, Mr. letters from, i. 395, 437
Dodsley, Mr. letter from, i. 5
———, declines publishing for Mr. Pinkerton, i. 5
Dogiel, author of a Polish *Codex Diplomaticus*, ii. 300
Donkin, General Sir Rufane, letter from, ii. 397
Douce, Mr. letters from, i. 108, 383, 393, ii. 233
———, in possession of a curious set of drawings of the French court by Janette, i. 374; his praise of Pinkerton's Geography, ii. 233
Douglas, the date of his grand rebellion against James II. doubtful, i. 360
——— , Lord, portrait of, at Newbottle House, ii. 33
Dress of the Highlanders in 1562 commonly sheep-skins, i. 406
—— with chains continued in England till 1483, i. 369
Dromore, Bishop of, see Dr. *Percy*
Drury, Robert, his Journal in Madagascar a curious book, ii. 323

Drusbacka, Madame, a distinguished Polish poetess, ii. 297
Duain, composed about 1070, some account of, i. 142
Dumfries-shire, gold found there, ii. 172, (note.)
Duncan II. killed by a Thane of the Mearns, ii. 431
Duns conical, a few entire in Shetland, ii. 53
Duns Scotus, a remarkable portrait of, at Newbottle, ii. 104

Ecole des Mines at Paris, some account of, ii. 209
Edward IV., his statute respecting dress, i. 394
Edwards, James, his purchase of the Capo di Monte vase, ii. 235
Egypt, state of, in 1792, i. 315
Elephants' teeth, immense heaps of, discovered in the Lachofschian Islands, ii. 232
Elibank, Lord, on the publications of, i. 153
Emigrants to Virginia and Massachussetts, difference in the character of, ii. 329
English Language, proposed alterations in, H. Walpole's opinion of, i. 67
————, remarks on specimens of, by Rev. W. Tremayne, i. 86
Este, the House of, more important to Italian literature than that of Medici, ii. 5
Ethica, the original name of the Island of Egg, i. 183

Farmer's Essay on the Learning of Shakspeare, Mr. Walker's opinion of, i. 431
Faujas de St. Fond, sees traces of volcanoes everywhere, ii. 183, (note.)
Ferber, his remarks upon granite, ii. 386.
Fernandus Servatus, a play by Carlo Verardo, some account of, ii. 257, (note.)
Feudal system, anterior to the irruption of the Lombards into Italy, i. 232
Fife, Lord, letter from, ii. 13
———, his opinion of the portraits of Mary Queen of Scots, or James II. her son, ii. 14
Fliccus, Geraldus, painter of some portraits at Newbottle, ii. 100, 103
Flower of Yarrow, no portrait of the lady so called, ii. 218
Fordun, John, particulars of the manuscript of his *Scoti-chronicon* in C. C. C. Library, i. 397
Fox, Right Hon. C. J., his opinion of Laing's History, i. 433, (note.)
France, the manner in which great national publications are patronised there, i. 341
Frederick II. of Prussia, his character of Poland, ii. 304
———— Augustus, King of Poland, his character, ii. 282
Furred pynson, a name for furred slippers, i. 393
Fuseli, Mr. Walker's opinion of his Lectures, ii. 259

Galgacus, place of his battle with Agricola, ii. 419, (note.)
Garve Island, basaltic columns at, ii. 378
Gaudentio di Lucca, Lord Charlemont's opinion of, ii. 41
Gibbon, Mr. letter from, i. 330
————, Mr. Pinkerton's

opinion of, i. 329; his testimony in favor of Mr. Pinkerton as editor of the Ancient English Historians, i. 331; details of his plan for publishing the Early English Historians, i. 347; his eulogium of Mr. Pinkerton, ii. 450, (note.)
Gibbon's Memoirs, Mr. Walker's opinion of, i. 427
Gilla Coeman and Flan, their characters as antiquaries, i. 128
Gillies, Dr. letter from, i. 447
Glamis, sculptured stone at, described, ii. 412, (note.)
Glencairn Peerage, the patent of, the oldest known, ii. 23, (note.)
Goblin, a term used in Normandy as well as England, ii. 241; possibly a corruption of *God Belenus*, 243; or of *God Odin*, 244; mentioned as an evil spirit by Odericus Vitalis, 245
Godwin, Mr. letter from, ii. 105
Gold in Scotland, mode of finding it, ii. 172
Gordon, Alexander, some account of, ii. 418, (note.)
———, Colonel, some account of, ii. 268, (note); his manuscripts offered to the French Government, and on what terms, ii. 307, (note); his manuscripts bought by Lady Stafford, 391
———, Madame, letters from, ii. 268, 309, 339
Gossellin, M. letter from, ii. 259
———————, his elucidation of Ptolemy's description of Scotland, ii. 259; some account of him, *ibid.* (note.)
Gowrie Conspiracy, abstract of the contents of Mr. Pinkerton's Treatise on it, ii. 87
Gowrie's house at Perth, destroyed to make room for barracks, i. 442
Gowrie did not expect the King at the time of the Gowrie conspiracy, i. 443
Grace, remarks on, by H. Walpole, i. 71
Grammont, Memoirs of, false portraits in, i. 379
Granite, red, mountains of, at Strontian, ii. 186
——— the basis of all the highest mountains, ii. 386
Gravina, some account of, ii. 139, (note.)
Gray, H. Walpole's opinion of, i. 70
Grecians, full of grace in every thing, i. 73
Grenville, Lord, letter from, ii. 436, 454
Gribon, cave at, Mr. Mawe's account of, ii. 184
Griffith, Dr. R. letter from, i. 438, (note.)

Hailes, Lord, letters from, i. 32, 102, 107, 259, 263.
———————, his publication of *Ancient Scottish Poems*, i. 33; on the comparative progress of language in England and Scotland, 34; *Hardyknute* was written by Lady Wardlaw, 104; his opinion of Winton and Barbour, 105; reproves Pinkerton for his disbelief of the Old Testament, 108; his *Annals*, Mr. Pinkerton's opinion of, 234, (note); projects publishing Notes on the Acts of Parliament of the five James's and Queen

Mary, 260; his favorable opinion of Whitaker and Tytler's works concerning Queen Mary, 260; remarks on old Scotch laws, 264; his opinion that the tartan was introduced by St. Margaret, 409; Mr. Thomson about to write his life and publish a new edition of his works, ii. 178

Hamilton, second Duke of, portrait of, by Vandyke at Cullen House, ii. 89

————, Mr. Samuel, letter from, ii. 220

Harding, E., agreement with for the *Iconographia Scotica*, ii. 55, (note.)

Hardyknute, if modern, i. 37; written by Lady Wardlaw, i. 104

————, second part, Dr. Percy's opinion of, i. 6; Mr. Porden's opinion of, 25; written by Pinkerton, 82

Hatchett, Mr. letter from, ii. 197

Haut-de-chausses, the French name for trousers, not for the philibeg, i. 404

Haüy, l'Abbé, letter from, ii. 249

————, his character, ii. 209

Hay, George, first Earl of Kinnoul, effigy of, in the church at Kinnoul, i. 388

Hayley, William, Mr. Walker's opinion of his Life of Milton, i. 420

Haym, Mr. Walker's remarks on him, ii. 50

Headrick, Rev. Mr., his report on the Isle of Lewis, ii. 371

Heberden, Dr., sonnet to, i. 66

Herbert, bookseller, engages to publish *Iconographia Scotica*, i. 351

Herd, Mr. David, Mr. Pinkerton's opinion of, i. 185

Heriot, George, original portrait of him in Lord Buchan's possession, ii. 74

Heron's Letters of Literature, projected, i. 20; Mr. Park's opinion of, i. 20, (note); remarks on by H. Walpole, i. 67 and 71; by Rev. W. Tremayne, 83; by Mr. Knight, 99

Highland costume as at present, first mentioned by Lesley and Buchanan, 1570-1580, i. 406

Highlanders of Scotland, originally Irish, i. 221

———— most remote, how dressed in 1715, i. 231

———— essentially different from the Lowlanders, i. 410

Highlander, The, a poem by Macpherson, ii. 94

Highlands of Scotland, ancient names in them Gothic, and people Celts, i. 221

————————, their boundaries, i. 410

History of George II. planned by Pinkerton, i. 60

Histories of Scotland, chronological defects in, i. 346

History of Scotland by Mr. Pinkerton, terms for the copy-right of, i. 395

Hoadley, Bishop, H. Walpole's opinion of, i. 91

Holbein, portraits of James IV. and Margaret Tudor by, at Newbottle, ii. 195

Home, a conversation with, gave rise to Ossian, ii. 92

Horn-stones in Wales, affect a columnar form, ii. 230
Hroswitha, some account of, in Hayley's Essay on Old Maids, ii. 42
Hubert, Nicolas, alias French Paris, his first confession regarding Mary Queen of Scots, original, ii. 117
Hume, Horace Walpole's opinion of, i. 70
Hymn to Liberty, i. 206

Jacket close and ungathered, unknown till about 1477, i. 371
James II. of Scotland, Boece the only original author of his history, i. 296
—— III. and Queen, portrait of, at Kensington, i. 378
—— IV., three pictures of him with a falcon on his wrist, mentioned in Vertue's Catalogue of the pictures of Charles I. i. 369; his portrait with a falcon on the hand first discovered, i. 392; his portrait probably burnt at Whitehall, i. 378
—— V. of Scotland, Mr. Pinkerton's opinion of, i. 346
Jameson, G. his works at Taymouth, and description of his picture of the family tree there, i. 411, 420 (note); two remarkable pictures of his at Cullen House, ii. 21; his portrait by himself at Cullen House, ii. 90, 150; he always wore his hat while painting, ii. 151
——, Professor, critique on his *Mineralogy* in the Edinburgh Review, ii. 322, (note.)
Janette, his drawings of the French Court in the possession of Mr. Douce, i. 374
Jardin des Plantes at Paris, some particulars of, ii. 211
Iconographia Scotica, H. Walpole's opinion of, i. 379
Jenisch, his specimens of Turkish and Jagathay, ii. 200
Illuminations at Paris, on account of the general peace, ii. 216
Ingram, Rev. Dr., letter from, ii. 457
Innes, character of his *Essay on the Ancient Inhabitants of Scotland*, i. 128, (note.)
Innisfallen, Annals of, translated by Mr. O'Flannagan, i. 389
Johnes, Thomas, M.P. about to bring in a bill for a universal repository for all printed papers in London, i. 291
Johnson, Dr. Samuel, the expense of his living in London, i. 240
——, Mr. R., letters from, i. 134, 420
——, his death, i. 423; anecdotes of him, 424
Johnston, Rev. James, letter from, i. 118
Iona, not the repository of Caledonian records, i. 118; Mr. Mawe's account of, ii. 185
Irak, the pass of, the place where Mr. Browne was murdered, ii. 444, (note.)
Ireland, ancient kings of, some details respecting, i. 155
——, early history of, its annals mostly destroyed by the Northern barbarians, and such as remain very unsatisfactory, i. 127

Ireland, early history of, its elements imported from Spain, i. 129
———, History of the Revolutions of, projected by Dr. Campbell, i. 179
Irish Bards, Essay on, by J. C. Walker, favorably received in France and Italy, ii. 255
—— Kings, their dresses on old monuments, i. 405
—— Language extinct in the County of Down, i. 114
—— Manuscripts, General Vallancey the only man who could read them, i. 113
—— Prosody, Macpherson's Erse versification no affinity to it, ii. 96
—— Rebellion, some details of, ii. 30, 32, (note.)
Isla, the, its course, ii. 433, (note.)
—— Falls of the, described, ii. 434
Italian Drama, Essay on the revival of the, by J. C. Walker, Mr. Pinkerton's remarks on ii. 353
Jupiter Ammon, temple of, Mr. Browne's journey in quest of, i. 310
————, Siwa the real site of his temple, ii. 73

Kahira, plan of, intended to have been inserted in Mr. Browne's Travels, ii. 70
Kelt, not used by the most remote Highlanders in 1715, i. 231
—— or philibeg, probably gave name to the Celtic Gauls, i. 230
Kensington Palace, Royal portraits assembled at, by Queen Caroline, i. 378
Kielberg, gallery of portraits at, i. 251
Kirwan, Mr. letters from, ii. 231, 386
Knight, Mr. letters from, i. 26, 65, 99
————, his sonnet to Dr. Heberden, i. 66; H. Walpole's opinion of his poetry, 71; his remarks on *Heron's Letters*, i. 100
Konarski Stanislaus, his character and works, ii. 294

Lachofschian Islands, immense heaps of elephants' teeth discovered in, ii. 232
La Cruz, Juan de, character of his map, ii. 346, (note.)
Laing, Mr. Gilbert, letters from, ii. 32, 190, 320
——, Malcolm, M. P. letters from, i. 433, 442; ii. 51, 79, 93, 99, 103, 109, 119, 123, 131, 133, 143, 151, 165, 177, 207, 247, 334
————————, Mr. Fox and Dr. Parr's opinion of him as an historian, i. 433, (note); is preparing his *History of Scotland*, 434; his opinion upon Logan's accession to the Gowrie conspiracy, 435, (note); declines Mr. Pinkerton's advice to write a History of Scotland during the Commonwealth, 444; is convinced by his reasoning about the Celts, 446; his description of the Pights' Houses in Orkney, ii. 53; his Dissertation on Ossian, 54; his opinion of Whitaker's Vindication of Mary Queen of Scots, and his own intention of publishing on that subject, 95; pub-

lication of his History, 166; proposes an edition of Macpherson's poems, 248
Lamétrie, his collection of rocks, &c. ii. 220
Lava, stones near Aros erroneously so called, ii. 184
Ledwich, Edward, Mr. J. C. Walker's opinion of, i. 363
Ledyard, Mr. Browne's opinion of, i. 290
Lentils, not found wild in Darfûr, nor used there for food, ii. 72
Letters, original, from Queen Mary of Scotland and others, in the possession of Mr. R. Vans Agnew, ii. 10
Leure, a strap by which something was fastened about the habit, i. 394
Lewis, Isle of, report on, by Mr. Headrick, ii. 371
Leyden's Sketch of Discoveries in Africa, Mr. J. C. Walker's opinion of, ii. 162
Lightfoot, John, his *Flora Scotica*, remarks upon, ii. 147
Lindsay, Sir David, manuscript of his Plays in the Advocates' Library, i. 122; his *Satire*, account of, i. 143
Littus Saxonicum, many villages in, with the same names as villages in England, ii. 240
Liverpool Royal Institution, amount of subscriptions to, ii. 441
Livingston, Dame Ann, portrait of, at Lord Findlater's, ii. 89, 150
Livy, a passage in, explained, ii. 402
Lockhart of Lee, Memoirs of, deserve republication, i. 255, 257
Longman and Co. Messrs. letter from, ii. 314
————, Mr. T. N., letter from, ii. 455
Lope de Vega, Mr. J. C. Walker's opinion of Lord Holland's Life of, ii. 352
Lorimer, Dr. his opinion of the *Chronicon Rythmicum*, and Register of St. Andrew's, i. 181, 182; anecdote from, respecting the origin of Ossian, ii. 92
Lowlands of Scotland, ancient names in them Celtic, and the people Goths, i. 220

Macauley, Mr. letter from, i. 134
Macbeth, account of his wars against the Scandinavians true, i. 120
Macpherson, the topography of his Ossian supplied from O'Conor's *Dissertations*, ii. 54; anecdotes relative to his Ossian, ii. 92; an edition of his Poems prepared by Mr. Laing, ii. 247
Maitland Poems, supposed to be forgeries by Pinkerton, i. 106, (note.)
Major, John, his description of the Highland dress in 1521, i. 403
Mammoth, American, a skeleton of, exhibited in London, ii. 234
Manso, an account of him in Mr. Walker's Historical Memoir, ii. 7, (note.)
Marsh, Herbert, his account of the origin of the Gospels extraordinary, ii. 215
Marshall, Joseph, his Travels probably an imposture, ii. 231, 324
Martelli, L. unnoticed by Mr. Walker in his Memoir, ii. 51

Martin and his nine daughters, tradition respecting, ii. 426
Mary, Queen of Scots, Mr. Pinkerton's opinion of, i. 165; genuine portraits of her, i. 375; Mr. Davidson's opinion of the portraits of her, ii. 14, (note); a portrait of her at Newbottle House, ii. 34; peculiarity in her signature, ii. 115
Mathias, Mr. his Memoir of Rev. N. Nicholls, i. 101, (note); his merits in the cause of Italian Literature, ii. 342, (note.)
Maurice, Rev. Thomas, letter from, ii. 196
Mawe, Mr. John,* letters from, ii. 171, 182, 208, 215, 219, 222
————————, some account of, ii. 171, (note); account of his tour in Scotland, 171-175, 182-186; mode of searching for gold, 172; scenery of Glencroe, 174; mountains of breccia about Oban, 175; hill near Beregonium, 182; cave at Gribon, 184; Iona & Staffa, 185; mountains about Strontian, 186; his residence in Paris, 208-213, 215-217, 219-225; Parisian Mineralogists, 208; collection at the Ecole des Mines, 209; particularities of Paris, 210, 212; Museum at the Jardin des Plantes, 211; fête on account of the general peace, 216; illumination of the Tuileries, 217; Lamétrie's collection of minerals, 220; list of French coins, 224
Medina, some account of, ii. 143, (note.)
Meigle, sculptured stones at, described, ii. 412, (note.)
Melville, Gen., letter from, i. 213
Memorial, Mr. Pinkerton's, to the Prince Regent for patronage to his publication of the early English Historians, ii. 456
Mendoza, Captain, letter from, ii. 204
Merope of Maffei, translated by Mr. Ayre, ii. 29
Miller, Rev. James, letters from, ii. 425, 432
Milton, remarks on, by H. Walpole, i. 73
Mineralogy, New Arrangement of, by Mr. Pinkerton, A. Aikin's critique on, ii. 188
Mines, none new in Scotland, ii. 192
Minstrel, a term equally applicable to poet and musician, i. 356
Moneythin, where Duncan II. was killed, a barony in Mearns, ii. 431
Monroe, Mr. letter from, ii. 328
Montague, Lady Mary Wortley, H. Walpole's opinion of, i. 70
Moray, the bonny Earl of, some particulars respecting, ii. 368, (note.)
Morison, the botanist, a portrait of him at Aberdeen, i. 418
————, Messrs. their proposed editions of Barbour's and Dunbar's poems, i. 157

* In the Note respecting Mr. Mawe, ii. p. 171, his Christian name is by mistake called *Joseph*, instead of *John*. Joseph Mawe was the nephew of John, and died in the same year, a few months before him.

Murray, Sir Robert, his portrait not at the Royal Society, but at Bæillie of Jerviswood's, i. 402
Murray the Regent, no portrait of, at Fonthill, ii. 108
Musgrave, Sir William, his researches after portraits, i, 134, (note.)

Napier, Lord, letters from, ii. 129, 132
———, John, the finest original portrait of, in the possession of Mr. Napier of Blackstone, ii. 75; original portrait of him in Lord Napier's possession, ii. 133
Nebengestein, particulars respecting, ii. 164
Newbottle House, catalogue of the portraits at, ii. 79, (note.)
Newton, two curious monutal stones at, ii. 410
Nezami, his History of Alexander a valuable historical work, i. 415
Nicholas, St., Ailred's Life of, Pinkerton proposes to print, i. 79
Nicholls, Rev. Norton, some account of, i. 101, (note.)
Nichols, Mr. letters from, i. 27, 43
———, letters to, i. 28, (note); 35, (note); answers Pinkerton's proposal for a second volume of Scotch Ballads, 29.; charges Pinkerton with having forged the Maitland Poems, i. 106, (note.)
Northumberland House, fire at, i. 18, (note.)
Norwegian Charters, kept at Drontheim and burned, i. 119

Oases, one at Elwah, the other at Siwa, i. 314
Oban, mountains about it composed of breccia, ii. 175
O'Conor, Dr. Charles, letters from, i. 126, 141, 155
———, his Prospectus on the Scots in their heathen state, i, 126; his opinion of *Vallancey's Vindication of the Ancient History of Ireland*, i. 143; his Dissertations, the source of the topography of Ossian, ii, 54; Memoirs of his Life, some account of: the work suppressed, ii. 54
Ode on the approach of Summer, written by T. Warton, i. 265
Odericus Vitalis, curious passage from him, ii. 245, (note.)
Odin, probably the root of the word Goblin, ii. 244
Ogilvie, Sir James of Cardel, in great favor with Mary Queen of Scots, ii. 150
———, Mr. letter from, i. 417
Orchowski, M. letters from, ii. 271, 280, 293
Orford, Earl of, see *H. Walpole*
Orkneys, advice towards writing the history of, ii. 160
Orontes, the *Orwend* of the Persians, ii. 199
Ossian, Mr. Laing's Dissertation on the Highland Society's edition of, ii. 54, (note.)
———'s Poems, Mr. Pinkerton's opinion of, i. 164
Ouseley Major, (afterwards Sir William,) letters from, i. 413; ii. 6, 17, 199, 325, 443
——— plans a translation of *Sadi's Bostan* and *Nezami's History of*

Alexander, i. 414; is engaged in publishing *Persian Miscellanies*, 415; his opinion of Captain Wilford, and account of his Oriental Researches, ii. 6; has ready for publication an Essay on the Lyric Poetry of the Persians, 18; particulars of his Travels, 446

Ouseley, Captain, engaged in preparing a Catalogue of Irish Writers, i. 414, (note.)

Paris, some particulars of society at, ii. 210

Park, Mr. letter from, i, 349

———, his opinion of *Heron's Letters of Literature*, i. 20, (note.)

Parr, Dr. his opinion of Laing's History, i. 434, (note.)

Parsons, Sir Lawrence, Mr. Walker's opinion of his *Defence of early Irish History*, i. 419

Patent Rolls in the Tower, none later than Edw. IV. i. 309

Paterson, Lieut., extract from his Travels, ii. 268, (note.)

Patrin, E. M. some particulars of, ii. 208

Paton, Mr. George, Mr. Pinkerton's letters to, i. 184, 187

Peace, general, in 1802, fête at Paris on the occasion of, ii. 226

Peblis to the Play, an old poem by James I. sent to Mr. Pinkerton by Dr. Percy, i. 30; Mr. W. Tytler's opinion of it, i. 42

Peckard, Rev. Dr., letters from, i. 44, 47, 62, 105

———, information from, regarding the Pepysian Library, i. 44

Pennant, Mr. letter from, i. 401

———, portrait of Cardinal Beaton in his Scotch Tour not genuine, i. 402

Pepysian library at Cambridge, regulations concerning, i. 45

Perth, peerage of, no warrant for, i. 309

Percy, Rev. Dr., Bishop of Dromore, letters from, i. 5, 9, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 30, 39, 63, 112, 116, 146, 175, 210, 317, 355

———, his opinion of the second part of *Hardyknute*, i. 6; about to publish a fourth volume of *Reliques of Ancient Poetry*, 7; will reserve his collections for his son, 10; promoted to the deanery of Carlisle, 14; recommends Mr. Pinkerton to apply to Dodsley as a publisher, 17; introduces him to Mr. Nichols, 18, (note); sends Mr. Pinkerton the old poem of *Peblis to the Play*, 30; meditates publishing the British Essayists, and Surrey's Poems, and Buckingham's Works, 62, (note); his opinion of Gen Vallancey, 113; requests Mr. Pinkerton to abstain from any disrespectful mention of the Old Testament, 176; is greatly annoyed by the attacks of Mr. Ritson, 313; his intended note in answer to the objections of the Critical Review for Nov. 1792, 355

Phenii, a name taken by the early Scotch, i. 129

Philibeg, invented by an Englishman in Lochaber about 1730, i. 404; Pinkerton's idea of its origin, i. 407

Philistis, Queen, probably not a Sicilian, ii. 398
Philodoxeos, a play by Alberti, some account of, ii. 256, (note.)
Pictish Houses in Scotland, some account of, i. 161
Picts, not the *Cruitne* i. 140
Pights' Houses in Orkney, a description of, ii. 52
Pikes of shoes, their length restrained in 1465, i. 394
Pinkerton, Mr. letters from; to Mr. Nichols, i. 28, (note); to Lord Hailes, 36; to Mr. Nichols, 43, (note); to the Earl of Buchan, 95, 124; to Dr. O'Conor, 132; to the Earl of Buchan, 157, 162, 164, 172, 173, 176; to Mr. Geo. Paton, 184, 187; to the Earl of Buchan, 197, 214, 236; to Mr. Herbert, 243; to the Earl of Buchan, 247, 254; to Lord Hailes, 260; to the Earl of Buchan, 271, 276, 296, 320; to Mr. Gibbon, 328; to the Earl of Buchan, 333; to Mr. Nichols, 343; to the Earl of Buchan, 345, 350, 352, 353, 359, 364, 367, 369, 372, 384, 385, 391, 398, 402; to Sir John Sinclair, 405; to Mr. M. Laing, 439; to the Earl of Buchan, ii. 15; to Mr. M. Laing, 20, 25, 55, 82, 86, 91, 97, 107, 114, 122, 127, 136, 141, 148, 153, 154, 155, 158, 168; to Mr. A. F. Tytler,* 176; to Mr. M. Laing, 225; to Mess. Longman & Co., 314; to Mr. M. Laing, 326; to Mr. J. C. Walker, 343, 353; to Mr. J. B. Nichols, 392; to Messrs. Longman & Co., 393
———, his *Elegy on Craigmillar Castle*, i. 1; his clerkship at Edinburgh, 1, (note); publication of ancient poems, 9; meditates the publication of a selection of modern Latin poetry, 14; writes a tragedy, 16; removes to London, 18, (note); his irritability at an early age, 19, (note); publishes his *Rimes*, 22; publishes his *Tales in Verse*, 23; proposes to Nichols to publish a second volume of *Scotch Ballads*, 28; publishes *Scotch Tragic Ballads*, 34; meditates an edition of the Select Works of Chaucer, 35, (note); opinion of *Rymer's Prophecies*, 37; defends the antiquity of *Hardyknute*, ib.; his opinion of Tytler's publication of the *Poetical Remains of James I.*, 41; meditates his work on Medals, 43; proposes to dedicate it to H. Walpole, 46; sends H. Walpole a comedy for his opinion, 50: meditates a *History of the Reign of George II.*, and sends H. Walpole the preface of it, 60; applies to the Old Romances, 64; publishes *Heron's Letters of Literature*, 68; his comedy rejected by Colman, ib.; proposes to print Ailred's Life of St. Nicholas, 79; the second part of *Hardyknute* written by him, 82; meditates an edition of Barbour, ib.; pro-

* This letter is in the text erroneously *said* to be addressed to Mr. Laing.

jects publishing the Lives of the Scotch Saints, 90; publishes *Ancient Scottish Poems* from the *Maitland Ms.*, 96; applies for leave to copy a Ms. of Barbour's poems in the Advocates' Library, ib.; meditates reprinting the *Complaynt of Scotland* and *Douglas's Palice of Honor*, and publishing *Winton's Chronicle*, 98, 99; supposed to have forged the Maitland Poems, 106, (note); meditates writing the *Early History of Scotland*, 113; his labor in composing it, 132; plans his *Iconographia Scotica*, 134; prints for private distribution Sir David Lindsay's Satire, 143, (note); offers to help Messrs. Morison in publishing Barbour's poem, and to supply a preface, life, glossary and notes, 157, 162; proposes the formation of a society in Scotland for publishing pieces of history, &c., 163; his opinion of Ossian's poems and of Queen Mary, 164; the prospectus of his *Vitæ Sanctorum Scotiæ*, 167; engages to publish his *Scarce Scottish Poems* reprinted, 174; tries to obtain a situation in the British Museum, 180; his opinion of Mr. Herd, 185; projects compiling a catalogue of all the Gaelic Mss. in Scotland, 198; his Hymn to Liberty, 206; publishes his *Vitæ Sanctorum*, 218, (note); his opinion of Lord Hailes' Annals, 234, (note); offers to assist the Morisons in publishing the Metrical History of Wallace, 238; projects an edition of Drummond of Hawthornden, 248; publishes Barbour's poem of *The Bruce*, 252; projects a *History of Scotland from the accession of Malcolm III. to the death of James V.*, 253; elected honorary member of the Royal Icelandic Society of Sciences, 268; of the Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences, 308; applied to Mr. Gibbon to publish the Ancient English Historians, 328; his opinion of Mr. Gibbon, 329; publishes in the Gentleman's Magazine for 1788 twelve letters to the people of Great Britain on the cultivation of their national history, 330; marries Miss Burgess, 334; progress made in his History of Scotland, ib.; relinquishes the idea of publishing the Early English Historians on Gibbon's death, ib.; his opinion of preceding Scotch historians, and of James V., 346; on his own situation and disposition, 350; revives the *Iconographia Scotica*, 351; solicits the place of Librarian in the British Museum, 380; agrees with Mr. Dilly for the sale of the copy-right of his History of Scotland, 395; his remarks on the Highland dress, 405; connected with the Critical Review, 438, (note); his intention of publishing on the Gowrie conspiracy, 439; portraits of him, ii. 6, (note); Mr. J. C.

Walker's opinion of his History of Scotland, 29; his agreement with Harding for publishing the *Iconographia Scotica*, 55, (note); engaged in writing a tragedy, 61; abstract of the contents of his Dissertation on the Gowrie Conspiracy, 87; engages in publishing his *Geography*, 135; applies to mineralogy, 155; publishes a *New Arrangement of Mineralogy*, 188; terms for the abridgement of his *Geography*, 206; his difference with Cadell and Davies about the large-paper copies of the *Modern Geography*, 214, 251; goes to Paris, 226; returns with difficulty to England, 320, (note); his *Recollections of Paris* criticised in the Edinburgh Review, 347, (note); publishes an Atlas, 364; his agreement with Cadell and Davies for it, 390; removes to Edinburgh, 403; ill success of his tragedy, 404; his proposals for the publication of the Ancient English Historians, 436, (note); his memorial to the Prince Regent to patronise the above work, 456.

Plaid, not more ancient than the philibeg, i. 408

Planta, Mr. his idea of the value of the place of Librarian in the British Museum, i. 380, (note.)

Play by Pinkerton, H. Walpole's opinion of, i. 50

Plumbago, found near Cumnock in Ayrshire, ii. 321

Poland, its principal authors in the 17th century, ii. 272; causes for its slow progress in literature, 276; its state under Frederick Augustus, 282; under Augustus III. 289; its literature in the 18th century, and list of authors, 294

Poles, attached to no single foreign power, ii. 348.

Pope, remarks by H. Walpole on his Dunciad, i. 75

Porden, Mr. letter from, i. 23

———, his opinion of Mr. Pinkerton's *Tales in Verse*, and *Hardyknute* and *Rimes*, i. 23, 25

Porter, Sir R. Ker, his account of the assassination of Mr. Browne, ii. 443, (note.)

Portraits, many false in the Memoirs of Grammont, i. 379

Preston, W., his translation of the Argonautics praised by J. C. Walker, ii. 258

Prince Regent, Mr. Pinkerton's memorial to, ii. 456

——— Royal of Denmark, character of, i. 300

Progne, a play by Carraro, some account of, ii. 256, (note.)

Prologue to Tragedy, specimen of Mr. Pinkerton's poetry, ii. 405, (note.)

Proposals, Mr. Pinkerton's, for publishing the Early English Historians, ii. 436, (note.)

Prospectus of Mr. Pinkerton's *Vitæ Sanctorum Scotiæ*, i. 167

Ptolemy, his account of Scotland elucidated, ii. 259

Publications of a national character, how patronised in France, i. 341

Pursuits of Literature, recommended, ii. 13, (note.)
Puzyna, Countess, patroness of Polish literature, ii. 300
Pye, Mr. H. J., letter from, ii. 43

Raedykes, the Scotch camp before the last battle with Agricola, ii. 419
Ramsay, Allan, remarks on his Genius and Writings, by Mr. A. F. Tytler, ii. 170; Mr. Pinkerton's opinion of him, ii. 176
Reay, Lord, his country chiefly granitic and porphyritic, ii. 371
Recollections of Paris by Pinkerton, how treated in the Edinburgh Review, ii. 347, (note.)
Recupero, l'Abbé, brought into trouble by the publication of Brydone's Travels, ii. 333, (note.)
Reeky Linn, described, ii. 434
Regiam Majestatem, remarks upon, i. 261
Register of St. Andrew's, Dr. Lorimer's opinion of, i. 182
Rennell, Major, his encomium on Mr. Browne, ii. 44, (note.)
Repository for all printed papers in London, Dr. Anderson's plan for, i. 291
Republic, French, list of its coins, ii. 224
Review, the Edinburgh, critiques in, on a *Vindication of the Celts*, i. 446, (note); on *Jameson's Mineralogy*, ii. 322, (note); on *Pinkerton's Recollections of Paris*, 347, (note); on *Pinkerton's Modern Geography*, 360, (note.)
Revolution Club in Scotland, toasts and subjects of conversation at, i. 199
Rhyme, on the time of its invention, ii. 96, (note); and 99
Rimes published by Pinkerton; Dr. Beattie's opinion of, i. 22
Ritson, Joseph, his attack upon Dr. Percy, i. 318
Robert II. and III. a contemporary manuscript of their laws, i. 322
Robertson, Mr. George, letter from, ii. 420
Roscoe, Mr. letter from, ii. 441
———, Mr. J. C. Walker's opinion of him as an historian, ii. 13; his literary pursuits, ii. 351, (note.)
Ross, Mr. John, letters from, ii. 89, 149
Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences, elects Mr. Pinkerton a member, i. 308
Rymer, a term synonymous with minstrel or bard, i. 356
Rzewuski, Vinceslas, his character and works, ii. 296

St. George, his cross, when first used in heraldry, i. 383
St. Regnobert, founded four churches in Caen, ii. 241
Sapphic measure, Dr. Beattie on the true nature of, i. 12
Saxon Chronicle, imperfections in Gibson's edition of it, i. 330; character of Gibson's edition of it, i. 438, (note.)
Saxum metalliferum, particulars respecting, ii. 164
Schant Isles, description of, ii. 376
Scone Palace, portraits at, in the picture of a stag-chase by James VI., i. 388

Scotch College at Paris, letters there, i. 259
——— Deeds, none before the time of Robert Bruce, i. 124
——— Kings, a series of portraits of, at Newbottle House, ii. 34
——— Nation, Dr. Anderson's opinion of, i. 234
Scotichronicon by Fordun in C. C. C. Library, particulars of, i. 397
Scotland, History of, during the Commonwealth would be uninteresting, i. 414
Scots learned the art of navigation and writing from the Phœnicians, i. 129
Scott, Mr. James, letter from, i. 387
——, Miss Mary Lillias, called in later times the Flower of Yarrow, ii. 218
——, Sir Walter, letter from, ii. 218
Sculpture, curious, on ancient stones in Scotland, ii. 412, (note)
Scythians, Dissertation upon the ancient, by Mr. Pinkerton, praised by the Abbé de la Rue, ii. 238
Seaforth, the Earl of, letter from, ii. 369
———————, some account of, ii. 369, (note.)
Serpis, probably a contraction for surplice, i. 394
Seton, Mr. not author of the Ode on the Approach of Summer, i. 265
Sévigné, Mme. character of her Letters by H. Walpole, i. 76
Shaw, Dr. George, letter from, ii. 327
——, Rev. Stebbing, letter from, i. 396
Sheep's silver, name given to talk in Lewis, ii. 375
Sheffield, Earl of, letters from, ii. 449, 453
Sibbald, Mr. James, letter from, i. 338
Siddons, Mr. Henry, letters from, ii. 403, 404
Silkworms, may be fed wholly on lettuce, i. 306
Sinclair's History of Scotland, manuscript of, in the Scotch College at Paris, i. 302
Sinclair, Sir John, letter from, i. 404
————————, mineralogy omitted in his Statistic Survey, ii. 159
Siwa, ruins of the Temple of Jupiter Amnion at, i. 312
Slave trade, abolished in Denmark, i. 299
Smollett, inscription on the pedestal to his memory defaced, ii. 173
Sobieski, James, details of him and his works, ii. 274
————, John, eminent in literature no less than as a king, ii. 276
Sobreviela, his *Travels in South America*, ii. 346, (note.)
Somerville House, some portraits in it by Vandyke, ii. 35
Song, "I wish I were where Helen lies," modern, i. 36
Sonnet, by Mr. Knight, to Dr. Heberden, i. 66
Spain, no country equally rich in topographical books, ii. 124
Stafford, Marchioness of, letters from, ii. 367, 391
————————, her Etchings of Scotch Scenery, ii. 367
Stanowolski, Simon, a consi-

derable Polish author, ii. 272
Stone, Captain, letter from, ii. 364
Stones, with emblematical sculpture, figures of, ii. 413
Strathern, Heiress of, tragedy by Mr. Pinkerton, ii. 404
Strik-Martin, traditional history of the stone at, ii. 426
Strontian, mountains of red granite at, ii. 186
Stuart, Andrew, M.P. letters from, i. 302, 357, 428. ii. 1
———, General, letters from, i. 170, 211, 214
———, Sir John, of Darnley, Constable of the Scotch army, killed in the battle of Herrings, i. 171; called Concressault, from his lands there, i. 358
———, Sir William, particulars of, i. 216
———, Rev. Dr., letters from, ii. 410, 412, 416, 428
Switzerland, Mr. Dempster's opinion of, i. 240
Syracuse, Greek Theatre at, plan of, and inscriptions upon, ii. 399

Tacitus, his description of the dwellings of the Germans, ii. 53, (note); illustration of passages in his Treatise on Germany, i. 233
Tales in Verse, published by Pinkerton, Mr. Porden's opinion of, i. 23
Taliessin, the Welsh poetry attributed to him a forgery, ii. 92
Tanning leather, not introduced till 1620, ii. 25
Tansillo Luigi, some account of, ii. 57, (note.)
Tartan, came from Flanders, i. 409
Tassie, James, his death and some account of him, ii. 65
Taymouth House, catalogue of portraits at, i. 135
Terrytown, probably the Ptoroton of Ptolemy, ii. 430
Testi Fulvio, highly praised by Mr. J. C. Walker, and in *Heron's Letters of Literature*, i. 431, (note.)
Texali, probably their capital at Dalmaik, ii. 429
Theatre, Greek, at Syracuse, plan of, and inscriptions upon, ii. 399
Thomson, Mr. meditates a new edition of Lord Hailes' Works with a biographical memoir, ii. 178
Thorkelin, Dr., letters from, i. 139, 160, 265, 268, 273, 280, 299, 308
———————, on Pictish houses and vitrified forts, i. 161
Thucydides, a passage in, explained, ii. 401
Tiraboschi, Mr. J. C. Walker's opinion of, ii. 8
Tour, anonymous, in Scotland, Ireland, and England, preparing for the press by J. C. Walker, i. 390
Townson, Dr., letters from, ii. 156, 162
Tragedy by Mr. Pinkerton, ill success of, ii. 404
Treasurer's accounts in Scotland, none so old as 1460, ii. 23
Tremayne, Rev. W., letter from, i. 83
Tudor, Margaret, and James IV., portraits of, by Holbein, at Newbottle, ii. 195

Tytler, Mr. A. F., letter from, ii. 169
———————, author of Remarks on the Genius and Writings of A. Ramsay, ii. 170
———, W. letter from, i. 41
———————, his opinion of *Peblis to the Play*, i. 42

Vallancey, Gen., letters from, i. 110, 139
———————, his remarks on Mr. Pinkerton's List of Scottish Kings, and on the *Cruitne* and *Brutnaoi*, i. 110; the only man in Ireland able to read an Irish manuscript, 113; his remarks on the origin of the Picts, 140
Vandyke, some portraits by, at Somerville House, ii. 35
Vanora, Queen, her grave-stone at Meigle, ii. 427
Vans, Sir Patrick, his Journal in the possession of Mr. R. Vans Agnew, ii. 11
Vase, great, from the Capo di Monte, bought by Mr. Edwards, ii. 235
Verardo, Carlo, some account of his *Fernandus Servatus*, ii. 257, (note.)
Vertue's Catalogue of the pictures of Charles I., has three portraits of James IV. with a falcon on his hand, i. 369
Vesuvius, granite suspected to exist in, ii. 387
Vince, Rev. Samuel, letters from, ii. 135, 205
Virgil, his *Culex*, a curious instance of early rhyme, ii. 97
Vision, the, a Scottish Poem, Dr. Beattie and Dr. Percy's opinion of, i. 8, 11
Vitrified forts, built in the 13th century, i. 161
Ulphilas, alphabet used in his Gospels, ii. 414, (note.)
Voyages and Travels, Collection of, by Mr. Pinkerton, agreement with Longman & Co. for, ii. 356, (note.)
———————, Dutch, to the East Indies, catalogue of, ii. 383

Wahl, the best authority on Persian Geography, ii. 199
Walckenaer, M., translator of Pinkerton's Geography, ii. 316, (note.)
Walker, Dr., accuracy of his mineralogical knowledge, ii. 191; mistaken as to amianthus in Lewis, ii. 371
———, Mr. J. C., letters from, i. 361, 389, 419, 425, 430. ii. 2, 7, 11, 26, 29, 30, 36, 38, 40, 45, 49, 56, 59, 65, 118, 137, 161, 186, 254, 341, 350, 353
———————, his opinion of Ledwich, i. 363; engaged in preparing for the press an anonymous Tour in Scotland, Ireland, and England, in 1635, 390; quits the study of Irish Antiquities for Italian Literature, 419; his opinion of Gibbon's Memoirs, 427; loud in the praise of Fulvio Testi, 431, (note); his criticism on *Farmer's Essay on the Learning of Shakspeare*, 431; his journals in existence, and may probably be published, ii. 3, (note); was a correspondent of Lord Orford, and superintended the printing of his *Mysterious Mother* in Dublin, 5; description of the situation of his house, ib.;

his opinion of Mr. Roscoe as an historian, 13; his opinion of Gibbon, 27; his pleasure at reading Mr. Pinkerton's *History of Scotland*, 29; his praise of Mr. Pinkerton's *Rimes*, ii. 38; sets about writing his *Essay on the revival of the Dramatic Art in Italy*, 47; his bargain with Harding for his Memoir, 58; his *Essay on the Irish Bards*, written when he was 24, favorably received in France and Italy, 255; publication of his *Essay on the Revival of the Drama in Italy*, 351; Mr. Pinkerton's remarks on this work, 353

Wallace, portrait of, i. 246, 247; his portrait a palpable French forgery, 368

Waller, owed his reputation to grace, i. 72

Walpole, Hon. Horace, (afterwards Lord Orford,) letters from, i. 46, 50, 52, 57, 67, 71, 77, 79, 87, 90, 152, 203, 208, 223, 225, 228, 241, 252, 278, 319, 335, 349, 378, 382

———————, declines the dedication of Pinkerton's book on Medals, i. 46; his opinion of a Comedy by Pinkerton, 50 and 52; on the present state of poetry, 55; remarks on an intended edition of his works, 58; advice to Pinkerton respecting a History of George II., 60; observations on *Heron's Letters of Literature*, 67 and 71; his opinion of Hume, Gray, and Lady Mary Wortley Montague, 70; remarks on grace, as exemplified by Virgil, Addison, Horace, Waller, Milton, Cowley, &c. 71-74; character of Boileau, 74; criticism on the Dunciad, 75; will not employ his press in printing Greek authors, 78; declines printing *Ailred's Life of St. Nicholas*, 79; advice as to answering anonymous opponents, 87; opinion of Bishop Hoadley, 91; on Lord Elibank and his publications, 153; his intention of completing his *Royal and Noble Authors*, 153; endeavors to obtain Mr. Pinkerton a situation in the British Museum, 180; as to the Medals of Sir Robert Walpole, 209; his feelings as to the early history of nations, 223; his opinion of Mr. Pinkerton; on his own studies, 228; his feelings on becoming Earl of Orford, 278; his age and infirmities, 335; English royal portraits saved from the fire at Whitehall assembled at Kensington, 378; portraits falsely named in a recent edition of *Grammont's Memoirs*, 379; his opinion of the *Iconographia Scotica*, 379; his death, ii. 5

Walpole, Sir Robert, medals of, i. 209

Walpoliana, Mr. M. Laing's opinion of, ii. 167

Warden, Mr. D. B., letters from, ii. 336, 345

Wardlaw, Lady, author of *Hardyknute*, i. 104

Warsaw, Polish Library at, founded by the Zatuski family, ii. 298

Warton, Dr. Joseph, letter from, i. 264

———————, censure of his edition of Pope, ii. 13

Warton, Rev. Thomas, letter from, i. 40

———————, projected a History of the Age of Leo X., ii. 9, (note.)

Watts, Dr., mistaken as to the true rhythm of the Sapphic line, i. 12

Webbe, William, his work against Mr. Pinkerton, i. 351

Weber, Mr. Hen., letter from, ii. 406

Wedderburn, author of the *Complainte of Scotland*, i. 103

Weston, Rev. Stephen, some particulars of, ii. 234, (note.)

Whitaker, John, Mr. Laing's opinion of his *Vindication of Mary Queen of Scots*, ii. 95

Whitehall Palace, burned in the reign of King William, i. 378

Wicklow, gold mines in, account of, by Mr. Kirwan and Mr. Frazer, ii. 231, (note.)

Wilcocke, Rev. Dr., letters from, ii. 355, 381

———————, some particulars of, ii. 355, (note.)

Wilford, Captain, the most learned Sanscrit scholar living, confirms most of General Vallancey's conjectures, ii. 6

Wilson, Mr. letter from, ii. 21

Winton's Chronicle, some account of, i. 94, 95 (note); Lord Hailes' opinion of, i. 105; Mr. Pinkerton's opinion of, i. 163; the manuscript in the King's Library the only good one, i. 248

Woodrow's manuscripts in the Advocates' Library, character of, i. 444

Z, used for Y by old printers through ignorance, i. 158

Zatuski, the family of, founded a library of Polish literature, ii. 298

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